



United States
of America

Congressional Record

PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE 110th CONGRESS, FIRST SESSION

Vol. 153

WASHINGTON, FRIDAY, JUNE 15, 2007

No. 97

House of Representatives

The House met at 9 a.m. and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. McNULTY).

DESIGNATION OF THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Speaker:

WASHINGTON, DC,

June 15, 2007.

I hereby appoint the Honorable MICHAEL R. McNULTY to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

NANCY PELOSI,

Speaker of the House of Representatives.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, the Reverend Daniel P. Coughlin, offered the following prayer: United in prayer and in the belief that this country deserves the very best of their efforts, Lord, this Congress is called to order. Selected by the citizens to uphold the Constitution in all circumstances, the Members of Congress are truly called by You, O Lord, to bring Your truth and Your compassion to a pulsating reality in this Nation.

May the fidelity of the Members to public service and their ability to represent the best of their districts here create today even a small signal of Your tremendous fidelity to Your people, so revered and so loved, both now and forever. Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's proceedings and announces to the House his approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Will the gentleman from Florida (Mr. KLEIN)

come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. KLEIN of Florida led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair will entertain up to five 1-minute requests on each side.

HONORING VIETNAM WAR VETERAN JAMES WILLIS

(Mr. KLEIN of Florida asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. KLEIN of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and pay homage to a Vietnam War veteran by the name of James Willis. Mr. Willis, who is stricken with cancer and only has weeks to live, has been living on the streets of West Palm Beach for nearly 20 years.

Because of the good will of a local police officer who has been keeping track of Mr. Willis for the past year, Mr. Willis received a \$121 bus ticket to Greensboro, North Carolina, so he could spend his dying days with the only family left, his half brother.

Friends, it is an absolute shame that many of our Nation's veterans are living on the streets. These brave men and women in uniform served our country with bravery, honor and sacrifice. Yet unfortunately many of them are barely scraping by, and, in the case of Mr. Willis, are homeless.

In the words of Palm Beach County Corporal Karl Martin, who arranged through the Marine Corps League to purchase him a bus ticket, "There's no reason for any veteran in this country to be living in the woods somewhere."

Corporal Martin, you're a hero for arranging for Mr. Willis to spend his last

days with his family. And to Mr. Willis from our entire Nation, we are grateful for your service to our country. Thank you for the sacrifices you have made to protect our freedom.

PRESIDENT BUSH'S VISIT TO BULGARIA

(Mr. WILSON of South Carolina asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, earlier this week, President and Mrs. Bush visited Bulgaria as part of a six-nation European tour during the G8 Summit. Following Bulgarian admission this year into the European Union, the President's visit signifies Bulgaria's increased importance with its strategic location.

I am especially grateful President Bush and the First Lady participated in a round table discussion on free market democracy with students at the American University in Bulgaria. I am honored to serve on the university's board of trustees and I appreciate the leadership provided by president Michael Easton and chairman of the board David Flanagan. The round table was held at the university's Elieff Center for Education and Culture. The Elieff Center was made possible by the gracious financial donation of Eliot Elieff, a Bulgarian American living in San Marino, California. This world class facility proves his commitment to promote a bright future for Bulgaria.

I also appreciated a visit this week by Sofia mayor Boyko Borissov on Capitol Hill. Bulgaria is a strong ally of America and a full partner in NATO.

In conclusion, God bless our troops, and we will never forget September 11.

□ This symbol represents the time of day during the House proceedings, e.g., □ 1407 is 2:07 p.m.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.



Printed on recycled paper.

H6479

REPUBLICAN DELAY TACTICS ON APPROPRIATIONS BILLS

(Mr. PALLONE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I was hopeful at the beginning of this week that we were finally going to address America's homeland security needs and also increase funding for our veterans' health care by a significant amount, more than has been done, I think, in over 50 or 70 years.

But instead what we saw was a concerted effort by the Republican minority to delay every one of these appropriations bills: the Homeland Security bill that deals with our local responders, in response to 9/11, and in the case of the Military Construction and Veterans bill, they constantly delayed our efforts to move a bill that was going to increase funding and benefits for our veterans.

It really is awful to see what they've been doing all week in trying to delay and delay. If you go back to when the Republicans were in the majority, they weren't even able to pass the appropriations bills. They weren't even able to get their work done because they constantly delayed until they actually lost the election and never finished the bills.

At the same time, they keep talking about spending. Well, every year when they were in the majority the amount of Federal spending continued to go up. The Democrats finally have gotten spending under control and at the same time trying to address the fact that we have this huge Federal debt, a legacy of the Republican majority over the last 12 years.

And what do the Republicans do? They constantly try to delay. I just hope that it's over today and we don't see more efforts to delay these important bills on the part of the Republican minority.

THEODORE OTTO HERMAN HILL

(Mr. POE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. POE. Mr. Speaker, Theodore Otto Herman Hill—with a nickname of "Thunderhead" because of his fiery red hair—was my mom's father. He was born in Texas in 1899 and his grandparents were early Texas settlers from Germany.

Theodore was a cotton farmer, raised bees, and raised cattle. He married young and had three daughters that he called "the boys" who were expected to help him pick cotton.

Papa, as we called him, was a hunter, a taxidermist and a Teddy Roosevelt conservationist. He found on his land hundreds of Apache and Comanche arrowheads that he organized, and his collection will soon be turned over to the Texas Ranger Museum.

He could tell the type of tree by looking at the bark or observing the leaves.

He predicted the weather by watching the animals.

One afternoon in the 1950s while he was laying asphalt as a foreman of a work crew for the Texas Highway Department, a drunk driver broke through the barricade and killed my grandfather. I was 5 years old. My grandmother lived another 50 years after his death.

What I know of my grandfather makes me proud of my heritage.

This Father's Day we remember our fathers and grandfathers and know that a lot of good men have made us who we are today.

And that's just the way it is.

DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2008

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to House Resolution 473 and rule XVIII, the Chair declares the House in the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union for the further consideration of the bill, H.R. 2638.

□ 0910

IN THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Accordingly, the House resolved itself into the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union for the further consideration of the bill (H.R. 2638) making appropriations for the Department of Homeland Security for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2008, and for other purposes, with Mr. ROSS (Acting Chairman) in the chair.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. When the Committee of the Whole rose on the legislative day of Thursday, June 14, 2007, a request for a recorded vote on amendment No. 1 by the gentleman from Kentucky (Mr. ROGERS) had been postponed and the bill had been read through page 74, line 18.

Pursuant to clause 6 of rule XVIII, proceedings will now resume on those amendments on which further proceedings were postponed, in the following order:

Amendment by Mr. MCHENRY of North Carolina to amendment No. 33 by Ms. FOXX of North Carolina.

Amendment No. 33 by Ms. FOXX of North Carolina, if ordered.

Amendment No. 31 by Ms. FALLIN of Oklahoma.

Amendment No. 9 by Mrs. DRAKE of Virginia.

Amendment by Mr. KING of New York.

Amendment No. 13 by Ms. GINNY BROWN-WAITE of Florida.

Amendment by Mr. BURGESS of Texas.

Amendment by Mr. FERGUSON of New Jersey.

Amendment by Mr. MCHENRY of North Carolina.

Amendment No. 128 by Mr. PEARCE of New Mexico.

Amendment by Mr. CARTER of Texas.

Amendment No. 98 by Mr. MCCAUL of Texas.

Amendment No. 105 by Mr. KING of Iowa.

Amendment by Mr. BILBRAY of California.

Amendment No. 99 by Mr. MCCAUL of Texas.

Amendment No. 2 by Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky.

Amendment No. 28 by Mr. POE of Texas.

Amendment by Mr. LATOURETTE of Ohio.

Amendment by Mr. TANCREDO of Colorado.

Amendment No. 7 by Mr. TANCREDO of Colorado.

Amendment by Mr. ROYCE of California.

Amendment by Mr. FORBES of Virginia.

Amendment by Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky.

Amendment No. 1 by Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky.

The Chair will reduce to 2 minutes the time for any electronic vote after the first vote in this series.

AMENDMENT OFFERED BY MR. MCHENRY TO
AMENDMENT NO. 33 OFFERED BY MS. FOXX

The Acting CHAIRMAN. The unfinished business is the demand for a recorded vote on the amendment offered by the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. MCHENRY) to the amendment offered by the gentlewoman from North Carolina (Ms. FOXX) on which further proceedings were postponed and on which the noes prevailed by voice vote.

The Clerk will designate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

Amendment offered by Mr. MCHENRY to amendment No. 33 offered by Ms. FOXX:

Strike "\$1,241,000"

Replace with "\$8,961,000"

RECORDED VOTE

The Acting CHAIRMAN. A recorded vote has been demanded.

A recorded vote was ordered.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—ayes 108, noes 300, not voting 29, as follows:

[Roll No. 466]

AYES—108

Akin	Diaz-Balart, M.	King (IA)
Alexander	Drake	Kingston
Bachmann	Duncan	Knollenberg
Baker	Ehlers	Lamborn
Barrett (SC)	English (PA)	Mack
Bartlett (MD)	Feeney	Manzullo
Biggert	Flake	Marchant
Bilbray	Forbes	McCaul (TX)
Bishop (UT)	Fossella	McCotter
Blackburn	Fox	McCrery
Blunt	Franks (AZ)	McHenry
Boehner	Garrett (NJ)	McMorris
Boozman	Goode	Rodgers
Buchanan	Goodlatte	Mica
Burgess	Graves	Miller (FL)
Burton (IN)	Hastings (WA)	Miller, Gary
Buyer	Heller	Moran (KS)
Campbell (CA)	Hensarling	Musgrave
Cannon	Herger	Neugebauer
Cantor	Hoekstra	Nunes
Castle	Hulshof	Pearce
Chabot	Hunter	Pence
Coble	Inglis (SC)	Petri
Cole (OK)	Issa	Pitts
Conaway	Jindal	Platts
Davis, David	Johnson, Sam	Poe
Deal (GA)	Jones (NC)	Price (GA)
Diaz-Balart, L.	Jordan	Putnam

Radanovich
Ramstad
Rehberg
Reichert
Reynolds
Rohrabacher
Ros-Lehtinen
Roskam
Royce

Ryan (WI)
Schmidt
Sensenbrenner
Shadegg
Shays
Shimkus
Shuster
Smith (NE)
Smith (TX)

NOES—300

Abercrombie
Aderholt
Allen
Altmire
Arcuri
Baca
Bachus
Baird
Baldwin
Barrow
Barton (TX)
Bean
Becerra
Berkley
Berman
Berry
Billrakis
Bishop (GA)
Bishop (NY)
Blumenauer
Bono
Bordallo
Boren
Boswell
Boucher
Boustany
Boyd (FL)
Brady (PA)
Braley (IA)
Brown (SC)
Brown-Waite,
Ginny
Butterfield
Calvert
Camp (MI)
Capito
Capps
Capuano
Cardoza
Carnahan
Carney
Carter
Castor
Chandler
Christensen
Clarke
Cleaver
Clyburn
Cohen
Cooper
Costa
Costello
Courtney
Cramer
Crenshaw
Crowley
Cubin
Cuellar
Cummings
Davis (AL)
Davis (CA)
Davis (IL)
Davis (KY)
Davis, Lincoln
Davis, Tom
DeFazio
DeGette
Delahunt
DeLauro
Dent
Dicks
Dingell
Doggett
Donnelly
Doyle
Dreier
Edwards
Ellison
Ellsworth
Emanuel
Emerson
Engel
Eshoo
Etheridge
Everett
Fallin
Farr
Fattah

Ferguson
Filner
Fortenberry
Fortuño
Frank (MA)
Frelinghuysen
Gallegly
Gerlach
Giffords
Gilchrest
Gillibrand
Gillmor
Gingrey
Gohmert
Gonzalez
Gordon
Granger
Green, Al
Green, Gene
Grijalva
Hall (NY)
Hall (TX)
Hare
Harman
Hastert
Hastings (FL)
Hayes
Herseht Sandlin
Higgins
Hill
Hinchey
Hinojosa
Hirono
Hobson
Hodes
Holden
Holt
Honda
Hooley
Hoyer
Inslee
Israel
Jackson (IL)
Jackson-Lee
(TX)
Jefferson
Johnson (GA)
Johnson (IL)
Johnson, E. B.
Kagen
Kanjorski
Keller
Kennedy
Kildee
Kilpatrick
Kind
King (NY)
Kirk
Klein (FL)
Kline (MN)
Kucinich
Kuhl (NY)
LaHood
Lampson
Langevin
Lantos
Larson (CT)
Latham
Lee
Levin
Lewis (CA)
Lewis (GA)
Lewis (KY)
Linder
Lipinski
LoBiondo
Loeb sack
Lofgren, Zoe
Lowey
Lucas
Lungren, Daniel
E.
Lynch
Mahoney (FL)
Maloney (NY)
Markey
Marshall
Matheson

Matsui
McCarthy (CA)
McCarthy (NY)
McCollum (MN)
McDermott
McGovern
McHugh
McIntyre
McKeon
McNerney
McNulty
Meehan
Meek (FL)
Meeks (NY)
Melancon
Michaud
Miller (MI)
Miller (NC)
Mitchell
Mollohan
Moore (KS)
Moore (WI)
Moran (VA)
Murphy (CT)
Murphy, Patrick
Murphy, Tim
Murtha
Myrick
Nadler
Napolitano
Neal (MA)
Norton
Oberstar
Obey
Oliver
Ortiz
Pallone
Pascarell
Pastor
Payne
Perlmutter
Peterson (MN)
Peterson (PA)
Pomeroy
Porter
Price (NC)
Pryce (OH)
Rahall
Rangel
Regula
Renzi
Reyes
Rodriguez
Rogers (KY)
Rogers (MI)
Ross
Rothman
Roybal-Allard
Ruppersberger
Rush
Ryan (OH)
Salazar
Sali
Sánchez, Linda
T.
Sanchez, Loretta
Sarbanes
Saxton
Schakowsky
Schiff
Schwartz
Scott (GA)
Scott (VA)
Serrano
Sestak
Shea-Porter
Sherman
Shuler
Simpson
Sires
Skeltan
Slaughter
Smith (NJ)
Smith (WA)
Snyder
Camp (TX)
Bean
Berkley

Spratt
Stark
Sutton
Tanner
Tauscher
Taylor
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)
Thornberry
Tiahrt
Tiberi
Tierney
Towns
Turner

Udall (CO)
Udall (NM)
Van Hollen
Velázquez
Visclosky
Walden (OR)
Walsh (NY)
Walz (MN)
Wamp
Wasserman
Schultz
Watson
Watt
Waxman

NOT VOTING—29

Ackerman
Andrews
Bonner
Boyda (KS)
Brady (TX)
Brown, Corrine
Carson
Clay
Conyers
Culberson

Davis, Jo Ann
Doolittle
Faleomavaega
Gutierrez
Jones (OH)
Kaptur
Larsen (WA)
LaTourette
Miller, George
Paul

Messrs. DICKS, TIAHRT and DAN-
IEL E. LUNGREN of California, Ms.
FALLIN, Mr. DELAHUNT, Mr. SKEL-
TON, Ms. BERKLEY and Ms. GIF-
FORDS changed their vote from “aye”
to “no.”

Messrs. FRANKS of Arizona,
NEUGEBAUER, KINGSTON, COLE of
Oklahoma and BUCHANAN changed
their vote from “no” to “aye.”

□ 0940

So the amendment was rejected.

The result of the vote was announced
as above recorded.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE ACTING CHAIRMAN

The Acting CHAIRMAN. The next 23
votes will be 2-minute votes with a 30-
second warning. There will be no excep-
tions.

AMENDMENT NO. 33 OFFERED BY MS. FOXX

The Acting CHAIRMAN. The ques-
tion is on the amendment offered by
the gentlewoman from North Carolina
(Ms. FOXX).

The text of the amendment is as fol-
lows:

Amendment No. 33 offered by Ms. FOXX:

In title I, under the heading “Office of the
Secretary and Executive Management”,
after the first dollar amount insert “(re-
duced by \$1,241,000)”.

The question was taken; and the Act-
ing Chairman announced that the noes
appeared to have it.

RECORDED VOTE

Ms. FOXX. Mr. Chairman, I demand a
recorded vote.

A recorded vote was ordered.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. This will be
a 2-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic de-
vice, and there were—ayes 216, noes 198,
not voting 23, as follows:

[Roll No. 467]

AYES—216

Aderholt
Akin
Alexander
Altmire
Blackburn
Blunt
Baker
Barrett (SC)
Bartlett (MD)
Camp (TX)
Bean
Berkley

Biggert
Bilbray
Bilirakis
Bishop (UT)
Blackburn
Blunt
Boehner
Bono
Boozman
Boren
Boswell
Boustany

Cantor
Capito
Carter
Castle
Chabot
Hunter
Coble
Cole (OK)
Conaway
Costa
Cramer
Crenshaw
Cubin
Cuellar
Culberson
Davis (KY)
Davis, David
Davis, Lincoln
Deal (GA)
Dent
Diaz-Balart, L.
Diaz-Balart, M.
Donnelly
Drake
Dreier
Duncan
Ehlers
Ellsworth
Emerson
English (PA)
Everett
Fallin
Feeney
Ferguson
Flake
Forbes
Fortenberry
Fortuño
Fossella
Foxy
Franks (AZ)
Frelinghuysen
Gallegly
Garrett (NJ)
Gerlach
Giffords
Gillibrand
Gingrey
Gohmert
Goode
Goodlatte
Gordon
Granger
Graves
Hall (TX)
Hastert
Hastings (WA)
Hayes
Heller
Hensarling
Herger
Herseht Sandlin

Hill
Hobson
Hoekstra
Hulshof
Hunter
Ingilis (SC)
Issa
Jindal
Johnson (GA)
Johnson (IL)
Johnson, Sam
Jones (NC)
Jordan
Keller
King (IA)
King (NY)
Kingston
Kline (MN)
Knollenberg
Kuhl (NY)
LaHood
Lamborn
Lampson
Latham
LaTourette
Lewis (CA)
Lewis (KY)
Linder
LoBiondo
Lucas
Lungren, Daniel
E.
Mack
Mahoney (FL)
Manzullo
Marchant
Matheson
McCarthy (CA)
McCaul (TX)
McCotter
McCrery
McHenry
McHugh
McKeon
McMorris
Rodgers
Melancon
Mica
Miller (FL)
Miller (MI)
Miller, Gary
Moran (KS)
Murphy, Patrick
Murphy, Tim
Musgrave
Myrick
Neugebauer
Nunes
Pearce
Pence
Peterson (MN)

Peterson (PA)
Petri
Pitts
Platts
Poe
Pomeroy
Porter
Price (GA)
Pryce (OH)
Putnam
Radanovich
Ramstad
Regula
Rehberg
Reichert
Renzi
Reynolds
Rogers (AL)
Rogers (KY)
Rogers (MI)
Rohrabacher
Ros-Lehtinen
Roskam
Royce
Ryan (WI)
Sali
Saxton
Schmidt
Sensenbrenner
Shadegg
Shays
Shimkus
Shuster
Simpson
Smith (NE)
Smith (NJ)
Smith (TX)
Space
Stearns
Sullivan
Tancredo
Tanner
Taylor
Terry
Thornberry
Tiahrt
Tiberi
Turner
Upton
Walberg
Walden (OR)
Walsh (NY)
Wamp
Weldon (FL)
Weller
Whitfield
Wicker
Wilson (NM)
Wilson (SC)
Wolf
Young (FL)

NOES—198

Abercrombie
Allen
Arcuri
Baca
Baird
Baldwin
Barrow
Becerra
Berman
Berry
Bishop (GA)
Bishop (NY)
Blumenauer
Bordallo
Boucher
Boyda (KS)
Brady (PA)
Braley (IA)
Brown, Corrine
Butterfield
Capps
Capuano
Cardoza
Carnahan
Carney
Castor
Chandler
Christensen
Clarke
Clay
Clyburn
Cohen
Conyers
Costello
Courtney
Crowley

Cummings
Davis (AL)
Davis (CA)
Davis (IL)
Davis, Tom
DeFazio
DeGette
Delahunt
DeLauro
Dicks
Dingell
Doggett
Doyle
Edwards
Ellison
Emanuel
Engel
Etheridge
Farr
Fattah
Filner
Frank (MA)
Gilchrest
Gillmor
Gonzalez
Green, Al
Green, Gene
Grijalva
Hall (NY)
Hare
Harman
Hastings (FL)
Higgins
Hinchey
Hinojosa
Hirono

Hodes
Holden
Holt
Honda
Hooley
Hoyer
Inslee
Israel
Jackson (IL)
Jackson-Lee
(TX)
Jefferson
Johnson, E. B.
Kagen
Kanjorski
Kaptur
Kennedy
Kildee
Kilpatrick
Kind
Kirk
Klein (FL)
Kucinich
Langevin
Lantos
Larson (CT)
Lee
Levin
Lewis (GA)
Lipinski
Loeb sack
Lofgren, Zoe
Lowey
Markey

Marshall
Matsui
McCarthy (NY)
McCollum (MN)
McDermott
McGovern
McIntyre
McNerney
McNulty
Meehan
Meek (FL)
Meeks (NY)
Michaud
Miller (NC)
Mitchell
Mollohan
Moore (KS)
Moore (WI)
Moran (VA)
Murphy (CT)
Murtha
Nadler
Napolitano
Neal (MA)
Norton
Oberstar
Obey
Olver
Ortiz
Pallone
Pascrell

Pastor
Payne
Perlmutter
Price (NC)
Rahall
Rangel
Reyes
Rodriguez
Ross
Rothman
Roybal-Allard
Ruppersberger
Rush
Ryan (OH)
Salazar
Sanchez, Linda
T.
Sanchez, Loretta
Sarbanes
Schakowsky
Schiff
Schwartz
Scott (GA)
Scott (VA)
Serrano
Sestak
Shea-Porter
Sherman
Shuler
Sires
Skelton

Slaughter
Smith (WA)
Snyder
Solis
Souder
Spratt
Stark
Sutton
Tauscher
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)
Tierney
Towns
Udall (CO)
Udall (NM)
Van Hollen
Velázquez
Visclosky
Walz (MN)
Wasserman
Schultz
Watson
Watt
Waxman
Weiner
Welch (VT)
Wexler
Wilson (OH)
Woolsey
Wu
Yarmuth

NOT VOTING—23

Ackerman
Andrews
Bonner
Brady (TX)
Carson
Cleaver
Cooper
Davis, Jo Ann

Doolittle
Eshoo
Faleomavaega
Gutierrez
Jones (OH)
Larsen (WA)
Miller, George
Paul

Pickering
Sessions
Stupak
Waters
Westmoreland
Wynn
Young (AK)

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE ACTING CHAIRMAN

The Acting CHAIRMAN (during the vote). Thirty seconds are remaining in this vote.

Mr. GORDON of Tennessee changed his vote from “no” to “aye.”

□ 0946

So the amendment was agreed to.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

AMENDMENT NO. 31 OFFERED BY MS. FALLIN

The Acting CHAIRMAN. The unfinished business is the demand for a recorded vote on the amendment offered by the gentlewoman from Oklahoma (Ms. FALLIN) on which further proceedings were postponed and on which the ayes prevailed by voice vote.

The Clerk will redesignate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

Amendment No. 31 offered by Ms. FALLIN:
In title I, under the heading “Office of the Secretary and Executive Management”, after the first dollar amount insert “(reduced by \$138,000)”.

PARLIAMENTARY INQUIRY

Mr. MANZULLO. Mr. Chairman, parliamentary inquiry.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. The gentleman will state it.

Mr. MANZULLO. Is it proper to ask that the Members be ordered to stay in the Chamber and that the doors be sealed?

RECORDED VOTE

The Acting CHAIRMAN. A recorded vote has been demanded.

A recorded vote was ordered.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. This will be a 2-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—ayes 248, noes 168, not voting 21, as follows:

[Roll No. 468]
AYES—248

Aderholt
Akin
Alexander
Altmire
Bachmann
Bachus
Baker
Barrett (SC)
Bartlett (MD)
Barton (TX)
Bean
Berkley
Biggart
Bilbray
Bilirakis
Bishop (UT)
Blackburn
Blunt
Boehner
Bono
Boozman
Boren
Boswell
Boustany
Boyd (FL)
Brown (SC)
Brown-Waite,
Ginny
Buchanan
Burgess
Burton (IN)
Buyer
Calvert
Camp (MI)
Campbell (CA)
Cannon
Cantor
Capito
Cardoza
Carney
Carter
Castle
Chabot
Chandler
Coble
Cohen
Cole (OK)
Conaway
Cooper
Costa
Cramer
Crenshaw
Cubin
Cuellar
Culberson
Davis (KY)
Davis, David
Davis, Lincoln
Deal (GA)
Dent
Diaz-Balart, L.
Diaz-Balart, M.
Donnelly
Drake
Dreier
Duncan
Ehlers
Ellsworth
Emerson
English (PA)
Etheridge
Everett
Fallin
Feeney
Ferguson
Flake
Forbes
Fortenberry
Fortuño
Fossella
Foxx
Frank (MA)
Franks (AZ)
Frelinghuysen

Gallegly
Garrett (NJ)
Gerlach
Giffords
Gilchrest
Gillibrand
Gillmor
Gingrey
Gohmert
Goode
Goodlatte
Gordon
Granger
Graves
Hall (TX)
Hastert
Hastings (WA)
Hayes
Heller
Hensarling
Herger
Hereth Sandlin
Hill
Hobson
Hoekstra
Hulshof
Hunter
Inglis (SC)
Israel
Issa
Jindal
Johnson (IL)
Johnson, Sam
Jones (NC)
Jordan
Kagen
Keller
King (NY)
Kingston
Kirk
Klein (FL)
Kline (MN)
Knollenberg
Kuhl (NY)
LaHood
Lamborn
Lampson
Latham
LaTourette
Levin
Lewis (CA)
Lewis (KY)
Linder
LoBiondo
Loebbeck
Lucas
Lungren, Daniel
E.
Mack
Mahoney (FL)
Manzullo
Marchant
Matheson
McCarthy (CA)
McCauley (TX)
McCotter
McCrery
McDermott
McHenry
McHugh
McIntyre
McKeon
McMorris
Rodgers
McNerney
Melancon
Mica
Miller (FL)
Miller (MI)
Miller, Gary
Mitchell
Moore (KS)
Moran (KS)
Murphy (CT)

Murphy, Patrick
Murphy, Tim
Musgrave
Myrick
Neugebauer
Nunes
Pearce
Pence
Perlmutter
Peterson (MN)
Peterson (PA)
Petri
Edwards
Ellison
Platts
Poe
Pomeroy
Porter
Price (GA)
Pryce (OH)
Putnam
Radanovich
Ramstad
Regula
Rehberg
Reichert
Renzi
Reynolds
Rodriguez
Rogers (AL)
Rogers (KY)
Rogers (MI)
Rohrabacher
Ros-Lehtinen
Roskam
Royce
Ryan (WI)
Salazar
Sali
Saxton
Schmidt
Sensenbrenner
Shadegg
Sha's
Shimkus
Shuler
Shuster
Simpson
Sires
Skelton
Smith (NE)
Smith (NJ)
Smith (TX)
Space
Spratt
Stearns
Sullivan
Tancredo
Tanner
Taylor
Terry
Thornberry
Tiahrt
Tiberi
Tierney
Towns
Turner
Udall (CO)
Upton
Velázquez
Walberg
Walden (OR)
Wamp
Weldon (FL)
Weller
Wexler
Whitfield
Wicker
Wilson (NM)
Wilson (OH)
Wilson (SC)
Wolf
Yarmuth
Young (FL)

NOES—168

Abercrombie
Allen
Arcuri
Baca
Baird
Baldwin
Barrow
Becerra
Berman
Berry

Bishop (GA)
Bishop (NY)
Blumenauer
Bordallo
Boucher
Boyda (KS)
Brady (PA)
Braley (IA)
Brown, Corrine
Butterfield

Capps
Capuano
Carnahan
Castor
Christensen
Clarke
Clay
Cleaver
Clyburn
Conyers

Costello
Courtney
Crowley
Cummings
Davis (AL)
Davis (CA)
Davis (IL)
Davis, Tom
DeFazio
DeGette
Delahunt
DeLauro
Dicks
Dingell
Doggett
Edwards
Ellison
Emanuel
Engel
Eshoo
Farr
Fattah
Filner
Gonzalez
Green, Al
Green, Gene
Grijalva
Hall (NY)
Hare
Harman
Hastings (FL)
Higgins
Hinchey
Hinojosa
Hirono
Hodes
Holden
Holt
Honda
Hooley
Hoyer
Inslee
Jackson (IL)
Jackson-Lee
(TX)
Jefferson
Johnson (GA)

Johnson, E. B.
Kanjorski
Kaptur
Kennedy
Kildee
Kilpatrick
Kind
Kucinich
Langevin
Lantos
Larsen (WA)
Larson (CT)
Lee
Lewis (GA)
Lipinski
Lofgren, Zoe
Lowey
Lynch
Maloney (NY)
Markey
Marshall
Matsui
McCarthy (NY)
McCollum (MN)
McGovern
McNulty
Meehan
Meek (FL)
Meeks (NY)
Michaud
Miller (NC)
Mollohan
Moore (WI)
Moran (VA)
Murtha
Nadler
Napolitano
Neal (MA)
Norton
Oberstar
Obey
Olver
Ortiz
Pallone
Pascrell
Pastor
Payne

Price (NC)
Rahall
Rangel
Reyes
Ross
Rothman
Roybal-Allard
Ruppersberger
Rush
Ryan (OH)
Sanchez, Linda
T.
Sanchez, Loretta
Sarbanes
Schakowsky
Schiff
Schwartz
Scott (GA)
Scott (VA)
Serrano
Sestak
Shea-Porter
Sherman
Slaughter
Smith (WA)
Snyder
Solis
Souder
Stark
Sutton
Tauscher
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)
Udall (NM)
Van Hollen
Visclosky
Walsh (NY)
Walz (MN)
Wasserman
Schultz
Watson
Watt
Waxman
Weiner
Welch (VT)
Woolsey
Wu

NOT VOTING—21

Ackerman
Andrews
Bonner
Brady (TX)
Carson
Davis, Jo Ann
Doolittle

Doyle
Faleomavaega
Gutierrez
Jones (OH)
King (IA)
Miller, George
Paul

Pickering
Sessions
Stupak
Waters
Westmoreland
Wynn
Young (AK)

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE ACTING CHAIRMAN

The Acting CHAIRMAN (during the vote). Thirty seconds are remaining in this vote.

□ 0950

So the amendment was agreed to.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

AMENDMENT NO. 9 OFFERED BY MRS. DRAKE

The Acting CHAIRMAN. The unfinished business is the demand for a recorded vote on the amendment offered by the gentlewoman from Virginia (Mrs. DRAKE) on which further proceedings were postponed and on which the noes prevailed by voice vote.

The Clerk will redesignate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

Amendment No. 9 offered by Mrs. DRAKE:
Page 2, line 16, after the dollar amount, insert “(reduced by \$10,400,000)”.

Page 17, line 23, after the dollar amount, insert “(increased by \$9,100,000)”.

RECORDED VOTE

The Acting CHAIRMAN. A recorded vote has been demanded.

A recorded vote was ordered.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. This will be a 2-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—ayes 286, noes 127, not voting 24, as follows:

[Roll No. 469]

AYES—286

Aderholt Fortenberry McMorris
Akin Fossella Rodgers
Alexander Foxx McNerney
Allen Franks (AZ) McNulty
Altmire Frelinghuysen Meehan
Arcuri Gallegly Meek (FL)
Bachmann Garrett (NJ) Melancon
Bachus Gerlach Mica
Baker Giffords Michaud
Barrett (SC) Gilchrest Miller (FL)
Barrow Gillibrand Miller (MI)
Bartlett (MD) Gillmor Miller (NC)
Barton (TX) Gingrey Miller, Gary
Bean Gohmert Mitchell
Berman Goode Moore (KS)
Biggart Goodlatte Moran (KS)
Bilbray Gordon Murphy (CT)
Bilirakis Granger Murphy, Patrick
Bishop (NY) Graves Murphy, Tim
Bishop (UT) Green, Al Musgrave
Blackburn Green, Gene Myrick
Blunt Hall (NY) Neal (MA)
Boehner Hall (TX) Neugebauer
Bono Hare Nunes
Boozman Hastert Oberstar
Bordallo Hastings (WA) Pearce
Boren Hayes Pence
Boswell Heller Perlmutter
Boucher Hensarling Peterson (MN)
Boustany Herger Peterson (PA)
Boyd (FL) Herseeth Sandlin Petri
Boyda (KS) Higgins Pitts
Brady (PA) Hill Platts
Braley (IA) Hobson Poe
Brown (SC) Hoekstra Pomeroy
Brown, Corrine Holden Porter
Brown-Waite, Hooley Price (GA)
Ginny Hulshof Pryce (OH)
Buchanan Inglis (SC) Putnam
Burgess Israel Radanovich
Burton (IN) Issa Ramstad
Buyer Jindal Regula
Calvert Johnson (IL) Rehberg
Camp (MI) Johnson, Sam Reichert
Campbell (CA) Jones (NC) Renzi
Cannon Jordan Reynolds
Capito Kagen Rogers (AL)
Capuano Kaptur Rogers (KY)
Cardoza Keller Rogers (MI)
Carnahan Kildee Rohrabacher
Carney Kind Roskam
Carter King (IA) Ross
Castle King (NY) Royce
Castor Kingston Ryan (WI)
Chabot Kirk Sali
Chandler Klein (FL) Saxton
Cleaver Kline (MN) Schiff
Coble Knollenberg Schmidt
Cohen Kuhl (NY) Schwartz
Cole (OK) LaHood Scott (VA)
Conaway Lamborn Sensenbrenner
Cooper Lampson Shadegg
Costa Langevin Shays
Courtney Latham Shea-Porter
Cramer LaTourette Shimkus
Crenshaw Lewis (CA) Shuler
Cubin Lewis (GA) Shuster
Culberson Lewis (KY) Simpson
Davis (AL) Linder Sires
Davis (KY) Lipinski Skelton
Davis, David LoBiondo Smith (NE)
Davis, Lincoln Loeb sack Smith (NJ)
Davis, Tom Lucas Smith (TX)
Deal (GA) Lungren, Daniel Souder
DeFazio E. Space
Dent Lynch Spratt
Donnelly Mack Stearns
Doolittle Mahoney (FL) Sullivan
Drake Manzullo Tancredo
Dreier Marchant Tanner
Duncan Marshall Taylor
Ehlers Matheson Terry
Ellsworth McCarthy (CA) Thornberry
Emerson McCarthy (NY) Tiahrt
English (PA) McCaul (TX) Tiberi
Etheridge McCotter Turner
Everett McCrery Upton
Fallin McGovern Walberg
Feeney McHenry Walden (OR)
Ferguson McHugh Walsh (NY)
Flake McIntyre Walz (MN)
Forbes McKeon Wamp

Waxman
Weiner
Weldon (FL)
Weller
Whitfield

Wicker
Wilson (NM)
Wilson (OH)
Wilson (SC)
Wolf

NOES—127

Abercrombie Hastings (FL)
Baca Hinchey
Baird Hinojosa
Baldwin Hirono
Becerra Hodes
Berkley Holt
Berry Honda
Bishop (GA) Hoyer
Blumenauer Inslee
Butterfield Jackson (IL)
Capps Jefferson
Christensen Johnson (GA)
Clarke Johnson, E. B.
Clay Kanjorski
Clyburn Kennedy
Conyers Kilpatrick
Costello Kucinich
Crowley Lantos
Cuellar Larsen (WA)
Cummings Larson (CT)
Davis (CA) Lee
Davis (IL) Levin
DeGette Lofgren, Zoe
Delahunt Lowey
DeLauro Maloney (NY)
Diaz-Balart, L. Markey
Diaz-Balart, M. Matsui
Dicks McCollum (MN)
Dingell McDermott
Doggett Meeks (NY)
Doyle Molohan
Ellison Moore (WI)
Emanuel Moran (VA)
Engel Murtha
Eshoo Nadler
Farr Napolitano
Fattah Norton
Filner Olver
Fortuño Ortiz
Frank (MA) Pallone
Gonzalez Pascarell
Grijalva Pastor
Harman Payne

Price (NC)
Rahall
Rangel
Reyes
Rodriguez
Ros-Lehtinen
Rothman
Ruppersberger
Rush
Ryan (OH)
Salazar
Sánchez, Linda
T.
Sanchez, Loretta
Sarbanes
Schakowsky
Scott (GA)
Serrano
Sestak
Sherman
Slaughter
Smith (WA)
Snyder
Solis
Stark
Sutton
Tauscher
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)
Tierney
Towns
Udall (CO)
Udall (NM)
Van Hollen
Velázquez
Visclosky
Wasserman
Schultz
Watson
Watt
Welch (VT)
Wexler
Woolsey

NOT VOTING—24

Ackerman Gutierrez
Andrews Hunter
Bonner Jackson-Lee
Brady (TX) (TX)
Cantor Jones (OH)
Carson Miller, George
Davis, Jo Ann Obey
Edwards Paul
Faleomavaega Pickering

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE ACTING CHAIRMAN

The Acting CHAIRMAN (during the vote). Thirty seconds are remaining in this vote.

□ 0953

So the amendment was agreed to.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

Stated for:

Mr. CANTOR. Mr. Chairman, on rollcall No. 469, I was unavoidably detained. Had I been present, I would have voted “aye.”

AMENDMENT OFFERED BY MR. KING OF NEW YORK

The Acting CHAIRMAN. The unfinished business is the demand for a recorded vote on the amendment offered by the gentleman from New York (Mr. KING) on which further proceedings were postponed and on which the noes prevailed by voice vote.

The Clerk will redesignate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

Amendment offered by Mr. KING of New York:

Page 2, line 16, after the dollar amount, insert “(reduced by \$35,000,000)”.

Page 31, line 18, after the dollar amount, insert “(reduced by \$5,000,000)”.

Page 51, line 17, after the dollar amount, insert “(increased by \$40,000,000)”.

RECORDED VOTE

The Acting CHAIRMAN. A recorded vote has been demanded.

A recorded vote was ordered.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. This will be a 2-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—ayes 282, noes 137, not voting 18, as follows:

[Roll No. 470]

AYES—282

Aderholt Engel
Akin English (PA)
Altmire Eshoo
Arcuri Etheridge
Bachmann Everett
Baird Fallin
Baker Fattah
Baldwin Feeney
Barrett (SC) Ferguson
Barrow Flake
Bartlett (MD) Forbes
Bean Fortenberry
Berkley Fortuño
Berman Fossella
Biggart Foxx
Bilbray Franks (AZ)
Bilirakis Frelinghuysen
Bishop (NY) Gallegly
Blackburn Garrett (NJ)
Blunt Gerlach
Boehner Giffords
Bono Gillibrand
Bordallo Gillmor
Boren Gingrey
Boswell Gohmert
Boustany Goode
Boyd (FL) Goodlatte
Boyda (KS) Gordon
Braley (IA) Graves
Brown (SC) Green, Al
Brown-Waite, Hall (NY)
Ginny Hall (TX)
Buchanan Harman
Burgess Hastings (WA)
Burton (IN) Heller
Buyer Hensarling
Calvert Herger
Campbell (CA) Herseeth Sandlin
Cannon Higgins
Cantor Hill
Capito Hinchey
Cardoza Hobson
Carnahan Hoekstra
Carney Holden
Castle Hulshof
Chabot Hunter
Chandler Inglis (SC)
Clarke Israel
Cleaver Issa
Cohen Jindal
Cole (OK) Johnson (IL)
Conaway Johnson, E. B.
Cooper Johnson, Sam
Costa Jones (NC)
Costello Jordan
Cramer Kagen
Crowley Keller
Cubin Kind
Cuellar King (IA)
Culberson King (NY)
Davis (AL) Kingston
Davis (KY) Kirk
Davis, David Klein (FL)
Davis, Lincoln Kline (MN)
Davis, Tom Kuhl (NY)
Deal (GA) LaHood
DeFazio Lamborn
DeLauro Lampson
Dent Langevin
Diaz-Balart, L. Latham
Diaz-Balart, M. LoBiondo
Doggett Lofgren, Zoe
Donnelly Lowey
Drake Lungren, Daniel
Dreier E.
Duncan Lynch
Edwards Mack
Ellsworth Mahoney (FL)
Emerson Maloney (NY)

Manzullo
Marchant
Marshall
Matheson
Matsui
McCarthy (CA)
McCarthy (NY)
McCaul (TX)
McCollum (MN)
McCotter
McDermott
McHenry
McHugh
McIntyre
McKeon
McNerney
McNulty
Meehan
Meek (FL)
Meeks (NY)
Melancon
Mica
Miller (FL)
Miller (MI)
Miller (NC)
Miller, Gary
Mitchell
Moore (KS)
Moore (WI)
Murphy (CT)
Murphy, Patrick
Murphy, Tim
Musgrave
Nadler
Neugebauer
Nunes
Obey
Pascarell
Pearce
Pence
Perlmutter
Peterson (MN)
Peterson (PA)
Petri
Pitts
Platts
Poe
Pomeroy
Porter
Price (GA)
Pryce (OH)
Putnam
Radanovich
Rahall
Ramstad
Rangel
Regula
Rehberg
Renzi
Reynolds
Rodriguez
Rogers (AL)
Rogers (MI)
Rohrabacher
Ros-Lehtinen
Roskam
Rothman
Royce
Ruppersberger
Rush
Ryan (WI)
Salazar
Sali
Saxton
Schiff
Schmidt
Schwartz
Scott (GA)
Scott (VA)
Sensenbrenner

Sestak
Shadegg
Shays
Sherman
Shuler
Simpson
Skelton
Slaughter
Smith (NJ)
Smith (TX)
Souder
Space
Spratt
Stearns
Tancredo

Tanner
Tauscher
Taylor
Terry
Thompson (CA)
Thornberry
Tiahrt
Tiberi
Towns
Turner
Upton
Van Hollen
Velázquez
Walberg
Walden (OR)

Walsh (NY)
Walz (MN)
Wamp
Waxman
Weiner
Weldon (FL)
Weller
Wexler
Wilson (NM)
Wilson (OH)
Wilson (SC)
Wolf
Woolsey
Wu

NOES—137

Abercrombie
Alexander
Allen
Baca
Bachus
Barton (TX)
Becerra
Berry
Bishop (GA)
Blumenauer
Boozman
Boucher
Brady (PA)
Brown, Corrine
Butterfield
Camp (MI)
Capps
Capuano
Carter
Castor
Christensen
Clay
Clyburn
Coble
Conyers
Courtney
Crenshaw
Cumming
Davis (CA)
Davis (IL)
DeGette
Delahunt
Dicks
Dingell
Doolittle
Doyle
Ehlers
Ellison
Emanuel
Farr
Filner
Frank (MA)
Gilchrest
Gonzalez
Granger
Grijalva
Hare

NOT VOTING—18

Ackerman
Andrews
Bonner
Brady (TX)
Carson
Davis, Jo Ann

Faleomavaega
Gutierrez
Markey
Miller, George
Paul
Pickering

Sessions
Stupak
Waters
Westmoreland
Wynn
Young (AK)

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE ACTING CHAIRMAN

The Acting CHAIRMAN (during the vote). Thirty seconds are remaining in this vote.

Mr. KUCINICH and Mr. BISHOP of Georgia changed their vote from “aye” to “no.”

□ 0957

So the amendment was agreed to.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

AMENDMENT NO. 13 OFFERED BY MS. GINNY BROWN-WAITE OF FLORIDA

The Acting CHAIRMAN. The unfinished business is the demand for a recorded vote on the amendment offered by the gentlewoman from Florida (Ms. GINNY BROWN-WAITE) on which further proceedings were postponed and on which the noes prevailed by voice vote.

The Clerk will redesignate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

Amendment No. 13 offered by Ms. GINNY BROWN-WAITE of Florida:

Page 2, line 16, after the dollar amount insert “(reduced by \$89,125,000)”.

Page 11, line 24, after the dollar amount insert “(increased by \$89,125,000)”.

RECORDED VOTE

The Acting CHAIRMAN. A recorded vote has been demanded.

A recorded vote was ordered.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. This will be a 2-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—ayes 241, noes 179, not voting 17, as follows:

[Roll No. 471]

AYES—241

Aderholt
Akin
Alexander
Allen
Altman
Arcuri
Bachmann
Baker
Barrett (SC)
Barrow
Bartlett (MD)
Barton (TX)
Bean
Berry
Biggart
Bilbray
Bilirakis
Bishop (NY)
Bishop (UT)
Blackburn
Blunt
Boehner
Bono
Boozman
Boren
Boswell
Boustany
Boyd (KS)
Brown (SC)
Brown-Waite, Ginny
Buchanan
Burgess
Burton (IN)
Buyer
Calvert
Camp (MI)
Campbell (CA)
Cannon
Cantor
Capito
Cardoza
Carter
Castle
Chabot
Chandler
Coble
Cole (OK)
Conaway
Costello
Cramer
Crenshaw
Cubin
Culberson
Davis (AL)
Davis (CA)
Davis (KY)
Davis, David
Davis, Lincoln
Deal (GA)
DeFazio
Dent
Donnelly
Doolittle
Drake
Dreier
Duncan
Ellsworth
Emerson
English (PA)
Everett
Fallin

Feeney
Ferguson
Flake
Forbes
Fortenberry
Fossella
Foxy
Franks (AZ)
Frelinghuysen
Gallegly
Garrett (NJ)
Gerlach
Giffords
Gillibrand
Gillmor
Gingrey
Gohmert
Goode
Goodlatte
Gordon
Granger
Graves
Hall (NY)
Hall (TX)
Harman
Hastert
Hastings (WA)
Heller
Hensarling
Herger
Hersteth Sandlin
Hobson
Hoekstra
Holden
Hooley
Hulshof
Hunter
Inglis (SC)
Inslee
Israel
Issa
Jindal
Johnson (IL)
Johnson, Sam
Jones (NC)
Jordan
Kagen
Keller
Kind
King (IA)
King (NY)
Kingston
Kirk
Klein (FL)
Kline (MN)
Kuhl (NY)
LaHood
Lamborn
Lampson
Latham
LaTourette
Lewis (KY)
Linder
Lipinski
LoBiondo
Lucas
Lungren, Daniel E.
Mack
Mahoney (FL)
Manzullo
Marchant

Souder
Space
Spratt
Stearns
Sullivan
Tancredo
Taylor
Terry
Thornberry
Tiahrt

Tiberi
Turner
Udall (CO)
Upton
Walberg
Walden (OR)
Walsh (NY)
Walz (MN)
Wamp
Weldon (FL)

NOES—179

Abercrombie
Baca
Bachus
Baird
Baldwin
Becerra
Berkley
Berman
Bishop (GA)
Blumenauer
Bordallo
Boucher
Boyd (FL)
Brady (PA)
Braley (IA)
Brown, Corrine
Butterfield
Capps
Capuano
Carnahan
Carney
Castor
Christensen
Clarke
Clay
Cleaver
Clyburn
Cohen
Conyers
Cooper
Costa
Courtney
Crowley
Cuellar
Cumming
Davis (IL)
Davis, Tom
DeGette
Delahunt
DeLauro
Diaz-Balart, L.
Diaz-Balart, M.
Dicks
Dingell
Doggett
Doyle
Edwards
Ehlers
Ellison
Emanuel
Engel
Eshoo
Etheridge
Farr
Fattah
Filner
Fortuño
Frank (MA)
Gilchrest
Gonzalez
Green, Al

Green, Gene
Grijalva
Hare
Hastings (FL)
Hayes
Higgins
Hill
Hinchey
Hinojosa
Hirono
Hodes
Holt
Honda
Hoyer
Jackson (IL)
Jackson-Lee (TX)
Jefferson
Johnson (GA)
Johnson, E. B.
Jones (OH)
Kanjorski
Kaptur
Kennedy
Kildee
Kilpatrick
Knollenberg
Kucinich
Langevin
Lantos
Larsen (WA)
Larson (CT)
Lee
Levin
Lewis (CA)
Lewis (GA)
Loebach
Lofgren, Zoe
Lowey
Lynch
Maloney (NY)
Markey
Matsui
McCarthy (NY)
McCollum (MN)
McDermott
McGovern
McNerney
McNulty
Meehan
Meek (FL)
Meeks (NY)
Michaud
Miller (NC)
Mollohan
Moore (WI)
Moran (VA)
Murphy (CT)
Murtha
Nadler
Napolitano

Weller
Whitfield
Wilson (NM)
Wilson (OH)
Wilson (SC)
Wu
Yarmuth
Young (FL)
Neal (MA)
Norton
Oberstar
Obey
Oliver
Ortiz
Pallone
Pascarella
Pastor
Payne
Peterson (MN)
Price (NC)
Rangel
Reyes
Rodriguez
Rogers (KY)
Ros-Lehtinen
Rothman
Roybal-Allard
Ruppersberger
Rush
Salazar
Sanchez, Linda T.
Sanchez, Loretta
Sarbanes
Schakowsky
Schiff
Schwartz
Scott (VA)
Serrano
Shea-Porter
Sherman
Sires
Slaughter
Snyder
Solis
Stark
Sutton
Tanner
Tauscher
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)
Tierney
Towns
Udall (NM)
Van Hollen
Velázquez
Visclosky
Wasserman
Schultz
Watson
Watt
Waxman
Weiner
Welch (VT)
Wexler
Wicker
Wolf
Woolsey

NOT VOTING—17

Ackerman
Andrews
Bonner
Brady (TX)
Carson
Davis, Jo Ann

Faleomavaega
Gutierrez
Miller, George
Paul
Pickering
Sessions

Stupak
Waters
Westmoreland
Wynn
Young (AK)

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE ACTING CHAIRMAN

The Acting CHAIRMAN (during the vote). Thirty seconds are remaining in this vote.

Ms. BERKLEY changed her vote from “aye” to “no.”

Mr. LAMPSON changed his vote from “no” to “aye.”

□ 1001

So the amendment was agreed to.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Ms. CARSON. Mr. Chairman, on Friday, June 15, 2007, I was unable to vote on Roll #466 through #471. Had I been present, I would have voted “no” on all of these amendments.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE ACTING CHAIRMAN

The Acting CHAIRMAN. The Chair announces the next 18 votes will be 2-minute votes with a 30-second warning. Members are encouraged to remain on the floor.

AMENDMENT OFFERED BY MR. BURGESS

The Acting CHAIRMAN. The unfinished business is the demand for a recorded vote on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Texas (Mr. BURGESS) on which further proceedings were postponed and on which the noes prevailed by voice vote.

The Clerk will redesignate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

Amendment offered by Mr. BURGESS:

Page 2, line 16, after the dollar amount, insert “(reduced by \$15,000,000)”.

Page 23, line 16 after the dollar amount, insert “(increased by \$15,000,000)”.

RECORDED VOTE

The Acting CHAIRMAN. A recorded vote has been demanded.

A recorded vote was ordered.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. This will be a 2-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—ayes 251, noes 171, not voting 15, as follows:

[Roll No. 472]

AYES—251

Aderholt	Coble	Gingrey
Akin	Cohen	Gohmert
Alexander	Cole (OK)	Goode
Allen	Conaway	Goodlatte
Altmire	Costello	Granger
Bachmann	Crenshaw	Graves
Bachus	Cubin	Hall (TX)
Baker	Cuellar	Hare
Barrett (SC)	Culberson	Harman
Barrow	Davis (KY)	Hastert
Bartlett (MD)	Davis, David	Hastings (WA)
Barton (TX)	Davis, Tom	Hayes
Bean	Deal (GA)	Heller
Berkley	DeFazio	Hensarling
Biggert	Dent	Herger
Bilbray	Diaz-Balart, L.	Herseth Sandlin
Billirakis	Diaz-Balart, M.	Hobson
Bishop (UT)	Dicks	Hoekstra
Blackburn	Donnelly	Holden
Blunt	Doolittle	Hooley
Boehner	Drake	Hulshof
Bono	Dreier	Hunter
Boozman	Duncan	Inglis (SC)
Boren	Ehlers	Israel
Boustany	Ellsworth	Issa
Boyda (KS)	Emerson	Jindal
Braley (IA)	English (PA)	Johnson (IL)
Brown (SC)	Everett	Johnson, Sam
Brown-Waite,	Fallin	Jones (NC)
Ginny	Feeney	Jordan
Buchanan	Ferguson	Keller
Burgess	Flake	King (IA)
Burton (IN)	Forbes	King (NY)
Buyer	Fortenberry	Kingston
Calvert	Fortuno	Kirk
Camp (MI)	Fossella	Kline (MN)
Campbell (CA)	Fox	Knollenberg
Cannon	Franks (AZ)	Kuhl (NY)
Cantor	Frelinghuysen	LaHood
Capito	Gallegly	Lamborn
Cardoza	Garrett (NJ)	Lampson
Carney	Gerlach	Latham
Carson	Giffords	LaTourette
Carter	Gilchrest	Lewis (CA)
Chabot	Gillibrand	Lewis (KY)
Christensen	Gillmor	Linder

Lipinski	Nunes
LoBiondo	Pearce
Loeb	Pence
Lucas	Perlmutter
Lungren, Daniel	Peterson (MN)
E.	Peterson (PA)
Lynch	Petri
Mack	Pitts
Mahoney (FL)	Platts
Maloney (NY)	Poe
Manzullo	Pomeroy
Marchant	Porter
Marshall	Price (GA)
Matheson	Pryce (OH)
McCarthy (CA)	Putnam
McCaul (TX)	Radanovich
McCotter	Ramstad
McCrery	Regula
McHenry	Rehberg
McHugh	Reichert
McIntyre	Renzi
McKeon	Reynolds
McMorris	Rogers (AL)
Rodgers	Rogers (KY)
McNerney	Rogers (MI)
McNulty	Rohrabacher
Mica	Ros-Lehtinen
Michaud	Roskam
Miller (FL)	Ross
Miller (MI)	Rothman
Miller, Gary	Royce
Moran (KS)	Ryan (WI)
Moran (VA)	Sali
Murphy, Tim	Saxton
Musgrave	Schmidt
Myrick	Scott (GA)
Nadler	Sensenbrenner
Neal (MA)	Shadegg
Neugebauer	Shays

NOES—171

Abercrombie	Green, Gene	Norton
Arcuri	Grijalva	Oberstar
Baca	Hall (NY)	Obe
Baird	Hastings (FL)	Olver
Baldwin	Higgins	Ortiz
Becerra	Hill	Pallone
Berman	Hinchey	Pascrell
Berry	Hinojosa	Pastor
Bishop (GA)	Hirono	Payne
Bishop (NY)	Hodes	Price (NC)
Blumenauer	Holt	Rahall
Bordallo	Honda	Rangel
Boswell	Hoyer	Reyes
Boucher	Inslee	Rodriguez
Boyd (FL)	Jackson (IL)	Roybal-Allard
Brady (PA)	Jackson-Lee	Ruppersberger
Brown, Corrine	(TX)	Rush
Butterfield	Jefferson	Ryan (OH)
Capps	Johnson (GA)	Salazar
Capuano	Johnson, E. B.	Sánchez, Linda
Carnahan	Jones (OH)	T.
Castle	Kagen	Sanchez, Loretta
Castor	Kanjorski	Sarbanes
Chandler	Kaptur	Schakowsky
Clarke	Kennedy	Arcuri
Clay	Kildee	Schwartz
Cleaver	Kilpatrick	Scott (VA)
Clyburn	Kind	Serrano
Conyers	Klein (FL)	Sestak
Cooper	Kucinich	Shea-Porter
Costa	Langevin	Sherman
Courtney	Sires	Slaughter
Cramer	Larsen (WA)	Snyder
Crowley	Larson (CT)	Solis
Cummings	Lee	Spratt
Davis (AL)	Levin	Stark
Davis (CA)	Lewis (GA)	Sutton
Davis (IL)	Lofgren, Zoe	Tanner
Davis, Lincoln	Lowe	Tauscher
DeGette	Markey	Thompson (CA)
Delahunt	Matsui	Thompson (MS)
DeLauro	McCarthy (NY)	Tierney
Dingell	McCollum (MN)	Towns
Doggett	McDermott	Udall (CO)
Doyle	McGovern	Udall (NM)
Edwards	Meehan	Van Hollen
Ellison	Meek (FL)	Velázquez
Emanuel	Meeks (NY)	Visclosky
Engel	Melancon	Wasserman
Eshoo	Miller (NC)	Schultz
Ethridge	Mitchell	Watson
Farr	Mollohan	Watt
Fattah	Moore (KS)	Waxman
Filner	Moore (WI)	Welch (VT)
Frank (MA)	Murphy (CT)	Wexler
Gonzalez	Murphy, Patrick	Murtha
Gordon	Napolitano	Yarmuth

NOT VOTING—15

Ackerman	Faleomavaega	Sessions
Andrews	Gutierrez	Stupak
Bonner	Miller, George	Waters
Brady (TX)	Paul	Westmoreland
Davis, Jo Ann	Pickering	Wynn

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE ACTING CHAIRMAN

The Acting CHAIRMAN (during the vote). Members are advised 30 seconds remain in this vote.

□ 1006

Mr. DICKS and Ms. BERKLEY changed their vote from “no” to “aye.” So the amendment was agreed to.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

AMENDMENT OFFERED BY MR. FERGUSON

The Acting CHAIRMAN. The unfinished business is the demand for a recorded vote on the amendment offered by the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. FERGUSON) on which further proceedings were postponed and on which the noes prevailed by voice vote.

The Clerk will redesignate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

Amendment offered by Mr. FERGUSON:

Page 2, line 16, after the dollar amount insert “(reduced by \$50,000,000)”.

Page 39, line 14, after the dollar amount insert “(increased by \$50,000,000)”.

Page 40, line 5, after the dollar amount insert “(increased by \$50,000,000)”.

Page 40, line 21, after the dollar amount insert “(increased by \$50,000,000)”.

RECORDED VOTE

The Acting CHAIRMAN. A recorded vote has been demanded.

A recorded vote was ordered.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. This will be a 2-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—ayes 239, noes 183, not voting 15, as follows:

[Roll No. 473]

AYES—239

Aderholt	Capuano	Engel
Akin	Cardoza	English (PA)
Altmire	Carnahan	Eshoo
Arcuri	Carney	Everett
Bachmann	Castle	Fallin
Baker	Chabot	Ferguson
Barrett (SC)	Chandler	Forbes
Barrow	Coble	Fortenberry
Bartlett (MD)	Cole (OK)	Fortuno
Barton (TX)	Conaway	Fossella
Bean	Conyers	Fox
Berkley	Costa	Frank (MA)
Biggert	Costello	Franks (AZ)
Bilbray	Courtney	Frelinghuysen
Bishop (UT)	Cramer	Gallegly
Blackburn	Crenshaw	Garrett (NJ)
Blunt	Cubin	Gerlach
Boehner	Cuellar	Giffords
Bono	Culberson	Gilchrest
Boozman	Davis (AL)	Gillibrand
Bordallo	Davis (KY)	Gillmor
Boren	Davis, David	Gingrey
Boswell	Davis, Lincoln	Gohmert
Boustany	Davis, Tom	Goode
Boyda (KS)	Deal (GA)	Goodlatte
Braley (IA)	DeFazio	Gordon
Brown (SC)	Delahunt	Graves
Brown-Waite,	Dent	Hall (NY)
Ginny	Diaz-Balart, L.	Hall (TX)
Buchanan	Diaz-Balart, M.	Harman
Burgess	Donnelly	Hastings (WA)
Burton (IN)	Doolittle	Herseth Sandlin
Buyer	Drake	Hill
Camp (MI)	Dreier	Hobson
Campbell (CA)	Duncan	Hodes
Cannon	Ellsworth	Hoekstra
Cantor	Emerson	Holden

Rohrabacher
Ros-Lehtinen
Roskam
Ross
Royce
Ryan (WI)
Sali
Saxton
Schmidt

Loftgren, Zoe
Lowey
Lynch
Mahoney (FL)
Maloney (NY)
Markey
Matsui
McCarthy (NY)
McCollum (MN)
McDermott
McGovern
McNerney
McNulty
Meehan
Meek (FL)
Meeks (NY)
Melancon
Michaud
Miller (NC)
Mitchell
Mollohan
Moore (KS)
Moore (WI)
Moran (VA)
Murphy (CT)
Murphy, Patrick
Murtha
Nadler
Napolitano
Neal (MA)
Norton
Oberstar
Obey
Olver
Ortiz
Pallone
Pascarell
Pastor
Payne
Perlmuter
Peterson (MN)
Pomeroy
Price (NC)
Rahall
Rangel
Reyes
Rodriguez
Rothman
Roybal-Allard
Ruppersberger
Rush
Ryan (OH)
Salazar
Sánchez, Linda
T.
Sanchez, Loretta
Sarbanes

Schakowsky	Stark	Wasserman
Schwartz	Sutton	Schultz
Scott (GA)	Tanner	Waters
Scott (VA)	Tauscher	Watson
Serrano	Taylor	Watt
Sestak	Thompson (CA)	Waxman
Shea-Porter	Thompson (MS)	Weiner
Sherman	Tierney	Welch (VT)
Sires	Towns	Wexler
Skelton	Udall (CO)	Wilson (NM)
Slaughter	Udall (NM)	Wilson (OH)
Smith (WA)	Van Hollen	Woolsey
Snyder	Velázquez	Wu
Solis	Visclosky	Wynn
Space	Walz (MN)	Yarmuth
Spratt		

NOT VOTING—16

Ackerman	Gingrey	Sessions
Andrews	Gutierrez	Smith (TX)
Bonner	Miller, George	Stupak
Brady (TX)	Paul	Westmoreland
Davis, Jo Ann	Pickering	
Faleomavaega	Schiff	

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE ACTING CHAIRMAN

The Acting CHAIRMAN (during the vote). Members are advised 30 seconds remain in this vote.

□ 1015

So the amendment was rejected.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE ACTING CHAIRMAN

The Acting CHAIRMAN. The Chair announces the next 15 votes will be 2-minute votes with a 30-second warning. There will be no exceptions. Members are encouraged to remain on the floor.

AMENDMENT NO. 128 OFFERED BY MR. PEARCE

The Acting CHAIRMAN. The unfinished business is the demand for a recorded vote on the amendment offered by the gentleman from New Mexico (Mr. PEARCE) on which further proceedings were postponed and on which the ayes prevailed by voice vote.

The Clerk will redesignate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

Amendment No. 128 offered by Mr. PEARCE: Page 6, line 5, after the first dollar amount, insert “(increased by \$125,000,000)”.

Page 22, line 9, after the dollar amount, insert “(reduced by \$125,000,000)”.

Page 22, line 13, after the dollar amount, insert “(reduced by \$125,000,000)”.

Page 22, line 14, after the dollar amount, insert “(reduced by \$125,000,000)”.

RECORDED VOTE

The Acting CHAIRMAN. A recorded vote has been demanded.

A recorded vote was ordered.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. This will be a 2-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—ayes 96, noes 327, not voting 14, as follows:

[Roll No. 475]

AYES—96

Akin	Burgess	English (PA)
Baker	Camp (MI)	Flake
Barrett (SC)	Cannon	Fossella
Bartlett (MD)	Carter	Fox
Barton (TX)	Chabot	Franks (AZ)
Biggert	Coble	Garrett (NJ)
Bilbray	Conaway	Giffords
Bilirakis	Cubin	Gingrey
Bishop (UT)	Culberson	Gohmert
Blackburn	Davis, David	Goode
Blunt	Deal (GA)	Goodlatte
Boehner	Donnelly	Graves
Boustany	Duncan	Hall (TX)
Buchanan	Ellsworth	Hastert

Heller	McMorris	Royce
Hensarling	Rodgers	Schmidt
Hoekstra	Mica	Shadegg
Hunter	Miller (FL)	Shays
Jindal	Miller (MI)	Shimkus
Johnson (IL)	Miller, Gary	Smith (TX)
Johnson, Sam	Musgrave	Souder
Tierney	Myrick	Space
King (IA)	Neugebauer	Sullivan
Kingston	Pearce	Tancred
LaHood	Pitts	Thornberry
Lamborn	Poe	Tiahrt
Lewis (KY)	Price (GA)	Tiberi
Linder	Putnam	Turner
Marchant	Radanovich	Upton
McCaul (TX)	Rehberg	Walberg
McHenry	Renzi	Wilson (SC)
McHugh	Rogers (AL)	Young (AK)
	Rogers (MI)	

NOES—327

Abercrombie	Diaz-Balart, L.	Kildee
Aderholt	Diaz-Balart, M.	Kilpatrick
Alexander	Dicks	Kind
Allen	Dingell	King (NY)
Altmire	Doggett	Kirk
Arcuri	Doolittle	Klein (FL)
Baca	Doyle	Kline (MN)
Bachmann	Drake	Knollenberg
Bachus	Dreier	Kucinich
Baird	Edwards	Kuhl (NY)
Baldwin	Ehlers	Lampson
Barrow	Ellison	Langevin
Bean	Emanuel	Lantos
Becerra	Emerson	Larsen (WA)
Berkley	Engel	Latham
Berman	Eshoo	LaTourette
Berry	Etheridge	Lee
Bishop (GA)	Everett	Levin
Bishop (NY)	Fallin	Lewis (CA)
Blumenauer	Farr	Lewis (GA)
Bono	Fattah	Lipinski
Boozman	Feeney	LoBiondo
Bordallo	Ferguson	Loeb
Boren	Filner	Lofgren, Zoe
Boswell	Forbes	Lowey
Boucher	Fortenberry	Lucas
Boyd (FL)	Fortuño	Lungren, Daniel
Boyd (KS)	Frank (MA)	E.
Brady (PA)	Frelinghuysen	Lynch
Braley (IA)	Gallegly	Mack
Brown (SC)	Gerlach	Mahoney (FL)
Brown, Corrine	Gilchrest	Maloney (NY)
Brown-Waite,	Gillibrand	Manzullo
Ginny	Gillmor	Markey
Burton (IN)	Gonzalez	Marshall
Butterfield	Gordon	Matheson
Buyer	Granger	Matsui
Calvert	Green, Al	McCarthy (CA)
Campbell (CA)	Green, Gene	McCarthy (NY)
Cantor	Grijalva	McCollum (MN)
Capito	Hall (NY)	McCotter
Capps	Hare	McCrery
Capuano	Harman	McDermott
Cardoza	Hastings (FL)	McGovern
Carnahan	Hastings (WA)	McIntyre
Carney	Hayes	McKeon
Carson	Herger	McNerney
Castle	Herseth Sandlin	McNulty
Castor	Higgins	Meehan
Chandler	Hill	Meek (FL)
Christensen	Hinchey	Meeks (NY)
Clarke	Hinojosa	Melancon
Clay	Hirono	Michaud
Cleaver	Hobson	Miller (NC)
Clyburn	Hodes	Mitchell
Cohen	Holden	Mollohan
Cole (OK)	Holt	Moore (KS)
Conyers	Honda	Moore (WI)
Cooper	Hooley	Moran (KS)
Costa	Hoyer	Moran (VA)
Costello	Hulshof	Murphy (CT)
Courtney	Inglis (SC)	Murphy, Patrick
Cramer	Inslee	Murphy, Tim
Crenshaw	Israel	Murtha
Crowley	Issa	Nadler
Cuellar	Jackson (IL)	Napolitano
Cummings	Jackson-Lee	Neal (MA)
Davis (AL)	(TX)	Norton
Davis (CA)	Jefferson	Nunes
Davis (IL)	Johnson (GA)	Oberstar
Davis (KY)	Johnson, E. B.	Obey
Davis, Lincoln	Jones (OH)	Olver
Davis, Tom	Jordan	Ortiz
DeFazio	Kagen	Pallone
DeGette	Kanjorski	Pascarell
Delahunt	Kaptur	Pastor
DeLauro	Keller	Payne
Dent	Kennedy	Pence

Perlmutter	Sarbanes	Tierney
Peterson (MN)	Saxton	Towns
Peterson (PA)	Schakowsky	Udall (CO)
Petri	Schiff	Udall (NM)
Platts	Schwartz	Van Hollen
Pomeroy	Scott (GA)	Velázquez
Porter	Scott (VA)	Visclosky
Price (NC)	Sensenbrenner	Walden (OR)
Pryce (OH)	Serrano	Walsh (NY)
Rahall	Sestak	Walz (MN)
Ramstad	Shea-Porter	Wamp
Rangel	Sherman	Wasserman
Regula	Shuler	Schultz
Reichert	Shuster	Waters
Reyes	Simpson	Watson
Reynolds	Sires	Watt
Rodriguez	Skelton	Waxman
Rogers (KY)	Slaughter	Weiner
Rohrabacher	Smith (NE)	Welch (VT)
Ros-Lehtinen	Smith (NJ)	Weldon (FL)
Roskam	Smith (WA)	Weller
Ross	Snyder	Wexler
Rothman	Solis	Whitfield
Roybal-Allard	Spratt	Wicker
Ruppersberger	Stark	Wilson (NM)
Rush	Stearns	Wilson (OH)
Ryan (OH)	Sutton	Wolf
Ryan (WI)	Tanner	Woolsey
Salazar	Tauscher	Wu
Sali	Taylor	Wynn
Sánchez, Linda	Terry	Yarmuth
T.	Thompson (CA)	Young (FL)
Sanchez, Loretta	Thompson (MS)	

NOT VOTING—14

Ackerman	Faleomavaega	Pickering
Andrews	Gutierrez	Sessions
Bonner	Larson (CT)	Stupak
Brady (TX)	Miller, George	Westmoreland
Davis, Jo Ann	Paul	

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE ACTING CHAIRMAN

The Acting CHAIRMAN (during the vote). Members are advised there are 30 seconds remaining on this vote.

□ 1019

So the amendment was rejected.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

Stated for:

Mr. LARSON of Connecticut. Madam Speaker, I regret that I did not vote on rollcall vote No. 475, on June 15, 2007. Had I been present, I would have voted: “no” on rollcall No. 475 on the amendment to H.R. 2638, to cut \$125 million from TSA’s explosive detection account; and increase the Customs and Border Protection Salaries and Expenses account by \$125 million.

(By unanimous consent, Mr. HOYER was allowed to speak out of order.)

ANNOUNCEMENT REGARDING FIRST VOTE IN A SERIES IN THE HOUSE

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Chairman, I would like to make Members aware now, so you have significant notice, in a full Chamber and very long in advance, that when the Committee rises, I intend to ask unanimous consent in the House that even the first vote in a series be a 5-minute vote, the first vote in a series.

I’ve not had an opportunity to discuss this. I wanted to give notice, and I will be discussing it with the leadership. Hopefully, they will agree. We have a lot of votes. I know Members want to get out of here today. We have the MILCON bill yet to come.

For example, on a possible motion to recommit, we’re going to ask unanimous consent that that be a 5-minute vote, and there seems to be some enthusiasm for that. So, talk to all of our colleagues about not objecting to that unanimous consent.

AMENDMENT OFFERED BY MR. CARTER

The Acting CHAIRMAN. The unfinished business is the demand for a recorded vote on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Texas (Mr. CARTER) on which further proceedings were postponed and on which the noes prevailed by voice vote.

The Clerk will redesignate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

Amendment offered by Mr. CARTER:

Page 11, line 25, strike “: *Provided*,” and all that follows through page 16, line 2, and insert a period.

RECORDED VOTE

The Acting CHAIRMAN. A recorded vote has been demanded.

A recorded vote was ordered.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. Without objection, 2-minute voting will continue.

There was no objection.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. This will be a 2-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—ayes 190, noes 233, not voting 14, as follows:

[Roll No. 476]

AYES—190

Aderholt	Forbes	McKeon
Akin	Fortenberry	McMorris
Alexander	Fossella	Rodgers
Altmire	Fox	Mica
Bachmann	Franks (AZ)	Miller (FL)
Bachus	Frelinghuysen	Miller (MI)
Baker	Gallely	Miller, Gary
Barrett (SC)	Garrett (NJ)	Moran (KS)
Barrow	Gerlach	Murphy, Patrick
Bartlett (MD)	Gillmor	Murphy, Tim
Barton (TX)	Gingrey	Musgrave
Biggert	Gohmert	Myrick
Billbray	Goode	Neugebauer
Bilirakis	Goodlatte	Nunes
Bishop (UT)	Granger	Pearce
Blackburn	Graves	Pence
Blunt	Hall (TX)	Peterson (PA)
Boehner	Hastert	Petri
Bono	Hastings (WA)	Pitts
Boozman	Hayes	Platts
Boren	Heller	Poe
Boustany	Hensarling	Porter
Boyd (KS)	Herger	Price (GA)
Brown (SC)	Hobson	Pryce (OH)
Brown-Waite,	Hoekstra	Putnam
Ginny	Hulshof	Radanovich
Buchanan	Hunter	Ramstad
Burgess	Inglis (SC)	Regula
Burton (IN)	Issa	Rehberg
Buyer	Jindal	Reichert
Calvert	Johnson (IL)	Renzi
Camp (MI)	Johnson, Sam	Reynolds
Campbell (CA)	Jones (NC)	Rogers (AL)
Cannon	Jordan	Rogers (KY)
Cantor	Keller	Rogers (MI)
Capito	King (IA)	Rohrabacher
Carter	King (NY)	Roskam
Chabot	Kingston	Ross
Coble	Kirk	Royce
Cole (OK)	Kline (MN)	Ryan (WI)
Crenshaw	Knollenberg	Sali
Cubin	Kuhl (NY)	Schmidt
Culberson	LaHood	Sensenbrenner
Davis (KY)	Lamborn	Shadegg
Davis, David	Latham	Shays
Davis, Tom	LaTourette	Shimkus
Deal (GA)	Lewis (CA)	Shuler
Dent	Lewis (KY)	Shuster
Donnelly	Linder	Simpson
Doolittle	Lucas	Skelton
Drake	Lungren, Daniel	Smith (NE)
Dreier	E.	Smith (TX)
Duncan	Mack	Souder
Ellsworth	Manzullo	Stearns
Emerson	Marchant	Sullivan
English (PA)	McCarthy (CA)	Tancredo
Everett	McCauley (TX)	Taylor
Fallin	McCotter	Terry
Feeney	McCrery	Thornberry
Flake	McHenry	Tiberi

Turner
Upton
Walberg
Walden (OR)
Wamp

Weldon (FL)
Weller
Whitfield
Wicker
Wilson (SC)

NOES—233

Abercrombie	Green, Al	Napolitano
Allen	Green, Gene	Neal (MA)
Arcuri	Grijalva	Norton
Baca	Hall (NY)	Oberstar
Baird	Hare	Obeys
Baldwin	Harman	Oliver
Bean	Hastings (FL)	Ortiz
Becerra	Hereth Sandlin	Pallone
Berkley	Higgins	Pascarell
Berman	Hill	Pastor
Berry	Hinchey	Payne
Bishop (GA)	Hinojosa	Perlmutter
Bishop (NY)	Hirono	Peterson (MN)
Blumenauer	Hodes	Pomeroy
Bordallo	Holden	Price (NC)
Boswell	Holt	Rahall
Boucher	Honda	Rangel
Boyd (FL)	Hooley	Reyes
Brady (PA)	Hoyer	Rodriguez
Braley (IA)	Inslee	Ros-Lehtinen
Brown, Corrine	Israel	Rothman
Butterfield	Jackson (IL)	Roybal-Allard
Capps	Jackson-Lee	Ruppersberger
Capuano	(TX)	Rush
Cardoza	Jefferson	Ryan (OH)
Carnahan	Johnson (GA)	Salazar
Carney	Johnson, E. B.	Sanchez, Linda
Carson	Jones (OH)	T.
Castle	Kagen	Sanchez, Loretta
Castor	Kanjorski	Sarbanes
Chandler	Kaptur	Saxton
Christensen	Kennedy	Schakowsky
Clarke	Kildee	Schiff
Clay	Kilpatrick	Schwartz
Cleaver	Kind	Scott (GA)
Clyburn	Klein (FL)	Scott (VA)
Cohen	Kucinich	Serrano
Conaway	Lampson	Sestak
Conyers	Langevin	Shea-Porter
Cooper	Lantos	Sherman
Costa	Larsen (WA)	Sires
Costello	Larson (CT)	Slaughter
Courtney	Lee	Smith (NJ)
Cramer	Levin	Smith (WA)
Crowley	Lewis (GA)	Snyder
Cuellar	Lipinski	Solis
Cummings	LoBiondo	Space
Davis (AL)	Loebuck	Spratt
Davis (CA)	Lofgren, Zoe	Stark
Davis (IL)	Lowe	Sutton
Davis, Lincoln	Lynch	Tanner
DeFazio	Mahoney (FL)	Tauscher
DeGette	Maloney (NY)	Thompson (CA)
Delahunt	Markey	Thompson (MS)
DeLauro	Marshall	Tierney
Diaz-Balart, L.	Matheson	Towns
Diaz-Balart, M.	Matsui	Udall (CO)
Dicks	McCarthy (NY)	Udall (NM)
Dingell	McCollum (MN)	Van Hollen
Doggett	McDermott	Velazquez
Doyle	McGovern	Visclosky
Edwards	McHugh	Walsh (NY)
Ehlers	McIntyre	Walz (MN)
Ellison	McNerney	Wasserman
Emanuel	McNulty	Schultz
Engel	Meehan	Waters
Eshoo	Meek (FL)	Watson
Etheridge	Meeks (NY)	Watt
Farr	Melancon	Waxman
Fattah	Michaud	Weiner
Ferguson	Miller (NC)	Welch (VT)
Filner	Mitchell	Wexler
Fortuño	Mollohan	Wilson (NM)
Frank (MA)	Moore (KS)	Wilson (OH)
Giffords	Moore (WI)	Woolsey
Gillchrest	Moran (VA)	Wu
Gillibrand	Murphy (CT)	Wynn
Gonzalez	Murtha	Yarmuth
Gordon	Nadler	

NOT VOTING—14

Ackerman	Faleomavaega	Sessions
Andrews	Gutierrez	Stupak
Bonner	Miller, George	Tiahrt
Brady (TX)	Paul	Westmoreland
Davis, Jo Ann	Pickering	

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE ACTING CHAIRMAN

The Acting CHAIRMAN (during the vote). Members are advised there are 30 seconds remaining on this vote.

□ 1024

So the amendment was rejected.
The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

Stated for:

Mr. TIAHRT. Mr. Chairman, on rollcall No. 476, I was inadvertently detained. Had I been present, I would have voted “aye.”

AMENDMENT NO. 98 OFFERED BY MR. MCCAUL OF TEXAS

The Acting CHAIRMAN. The unfinished business is the demand for a recorded vote on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Texas (Mr. MCCAUL) on which further proceedings were postponed and on which the noes prevailed by voice vote.

The Clerk will redesignate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

Amendment No. 98 offered by Mr. MCCAUL of Texas:

Page 17, strike the proviso beginning on line 2.

RECORDED VOTE

The Acting CHAIRMAN. A recorded vote has been demanded.

A recorded vote was ordered.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. This will be a 2-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—ayes 192, noes 232, not voting 13, as follows:

[Roll No. 477]

AYES—192

Aderholt	Duncan	Lamborn
Akin	Edwards	Lampson
Alexander	Ehlers	LaTourette
Altmire	Ellsworth	Linder
Bachmann	Emerson	LoBiondo
Bachus	English (PA)	Lofgren, Zoe
Baker	Everett	Lucas
Barrett (SC)	Fallin	Lungren, Daniel
Barrow	Feeney	E.
Bartlett (MD)	Ferguson	Lynch
Barton (TX)	Forbes	Mack
Biggert	Fortenberry	Manzullo
Billbray	Fossella	Marchant
Bilirakis	Fox	McCarthy (CA)
Bishop (UT)	Franks (AZ)	McCauley (TX)
Blackburn	Frelinghuysen	McCotter
Blunt	Gallely	McHenry
Boehner	Garrett (NJ)	McKeon
Bono	Gerlach	McMorris
Boozman	Giffords	Rodgers
Boswell	Gilchrest	Mica
Boustany	Gillibrand	Miller (FL)
Brown-Waite,	Gingrey	Miller (MI)
Ginny	Gohmert	Miller, Gary
Buchanan	Goode	Moran (KS)
Burgess	Goodlatte	Murphy, Patrick
Burton (IN)	Graves	Murphy, Tim
Buyer	Hall (TX)	Musgrave
Calvert	Hastert	Myrick
Camp (MI)	Hastings (WA)	Neugebauer
Campbell (CA)	Hayes	Nunes
Cannon	Heller	Pearce
Cantor	Hensarling	Pence
Capito	Herger	Peterson (MN)
Carney	Hereth Sandlin	Petri
Chabot	Hobson	Pitts
Coble	Hoekstra	Platts
Cole (OK)	Hulshof	Poe
Conaway	Hunter	Pomeroy
Crenshaw	Issa	Porter
Cubin	Jindal	Price (GA)
Cuellar	Johnson (IL)	Pryce (OH)
Culberson	Johnson, Sam	Putnam
Davis (KY)	Jones (NC)	Radanovich
Davis, David	Jordan	Ramstad
Davis, Lincoln	Keller	Rehberg
Deal (GA)	King (IA)	Reichert
Dent	King (NY)	Renzi
Donnelly	Kingston	Reynolds
Doolittle	Kirk	Rogers (AL)
Drake	Kline (MN)	Rogers (MI)
Dreier	Kuhl (NY)	Rohrabacher

Roskam	Shinkus	Tiahrt
Royce	Shuler	Tiberi
Ruppersberger	Shuster	Turner
Ryan (WI)	Simpson	Upton
Salazar	Smith (NE)	Walberg
Sali	Smith (TX)	Walden (OR)
Saxton	Smith (WA)	Weldon (FL)
Schmidt	Souder	Weller
Sensenbrenner	Stearns	Wicker
Sestak	Sullivan	Wilson (NM)
Shadegg	Tancredo	Wilson (SC)
Shays	Terry	Young (AK)
Sherman	Thornberry	Young (FL)

NOES—232

Abercrombie	Hall (NY)	Neal (MA)
Allen	Hare	Norton
Arcuri	Harman	Oberstar
Baca	Hastings (FL)	Obey
Baird	Higgins	Olver
Baldwin	Hill	Ortiz
Bean	Hinchey	Pallone
Becerra	Hinojosa	Pascarell
Berkley	Hirono	Pastor
Berman	Hodes	Payne
Berry	Holden	Perlmutter
Bishop (GA)	Holt	Peterson (PA)
Bishop (NY)	Honda	Price (NC)
Blumenauer	Hoolley	Rahall
Bordallo	Hoyer	Rangel
Boren	Inglis (SC)	Regula
Boucher	Inslee	Reyes
Boyd (FL)	Israel	Rodriguez
Boyd (KS)	Jackson (IL)	Rogers (KY)
Brady (PA)	Jackson-Lee	Ros-Lehtinen
Braley (IA)	(TX)	Ross
Brown (SC)	Jefferson	Rothman
Brown, Corrine	Johnson (GA)	Roybal-Allard
Butterfield	Johnson, E. B.	Rush
Capps	Jones (OH)	Ryan (OH)
Capuano	Kagen	Sánchez, Linda
Cardoza	Kanjorski	T.
Carnahan	Kaptur	Sanchez, Loretta
Carson	Kennedy	Sarbanes
Carter	Kildee	Schakowsky
Castle	Kilpatrick	Schiff
Castor	Kind	Schwartz
Chandler	Klein (FL)	Scott (GA)
Christensen	Knollenberg	Scott (VA)
Clarke	Kucinich	Serrano
Clay	LaHood	Shea-Porter
Cleaver	Langevin	Sires
Clyburn	Lantos	Skelton
Cohen	Larsen (WA)	Slaughter
Conyers	Larson (CT)	Smith (NJ)
Cooper	Latham	Snyder
Costa	Lee	Solis
Costello	Levin	Space
Courtney	Lewis (CA)	Spratt
Cramer	Lewis (GA)	Stark
Crowley	Lewis (KY)	Sutton
Cummings	Lipinski	Tanner
Davis (AL)	Loeb sack	Tauscher
Davis (CA)	Lowey	Taylor
Davis (IL)	Mahoney (FL)	Thompson (CA)
Davis, Tom	Maloney (NY)	Thompson (MS)
DeFazio	Markey	Tierney
DeGette	Marshall	Towns
Delahunt	Matheson	Udall (CO)
DeLauro	Matsui	Udall (NM)
Diaz-Balart, L.	McCarthy (NY)	Van Hollen
Diaz-Balart, M.	McCollum (MN)	Velázquez
Dicks	McCrery	Visclosky
Dingell	McDermott	Walsh (NY)
Doggett	McGovern	Walz (MN)
Doyle	McHugh	Wamp
Ellison	McIntyre	Wasserman
Emanuel	McNerney	Schultz
Engel	McNulty	Waters
Eshoo	Meehan	Watson
Etheridge	Meek (FL)	Watt
Farr	Meeks (NY)	Waxman
Fattah	Melancon	Weiner
Filner	Michaud	Welch (VT)
Flake	Miller (NC)	Wexler
Fortuño	Mitchell	Whitfield
Frank (MA)	Mollohan	Wilson (OH)
Gillmor	Moore (KS)	Wolf
Gonzalez	Moore (WI)	Woolsey
Gordon	Murphy (CT)	Wu
Granger	Murtha	Wynn
Green, Al	Nadler	Yarmuth
Green, Gene	Napolitano	
Grijalva		

NOT VOTING—13

Ackerman	Brady (TX)	Gutierrez
Andrews	Davis, Jo Ann	
Bonner	Faleomavaega	

Miller, George	Pickering	Stupak
Paul	Sessions	Westmoreland

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE ACTING CHAIRMAN

The Acting CHAIRMAN (during the vote). Members are advised there are 30 seconds remaining on this vote.

□ 1028

So the amendment was rejected.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE ACTING CHAIRMAN

The Acting CHAIRMAN. The Chair reminds Members that the next 12 votes will be 2-minute votes with a 30-second warning. All Members are encouraged to remain on the floor. There will be no exceptions, 2-minute votes.

AMENDMENT NO. 105 OFFERED BY MR. KING OF IOWA

The Acting CHAIRMAN. The unfinished business is the demand for a recorded vote on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Iowa (Mr. KING) on which further proceedings were postponed and on which the noes prevailed by voice vote.

The Clerk will redesignate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

Amendment No. 105 offered by Mr. KING of Iowa:

Page 17, line 23, after the dollar amount, insert “(reduced by \$5,000,000) (increased by \$5,000,000)”.

RECORDED VOTE

The Acting CHAIRMAN. A recorded vote has been demanded.

A recorded vote was ordered.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. This will be a 2-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—ayes 228, noes 195, not voting 14, as follows:

[Roll No. 478]

AYES—228

Aderholt	Cantor	Frelinghuysen
Akin	Capito	Gallely
Alexander	Carter	Garrett (NJ)
Altmire	Castle	Gerlach
Arcuri	Chabot	Gilchrest
Bachmann	Coble	Gillibrand
Bachus	Cole (OK)	Gillmor
Baker	Conaway	Gingrey
Barrett (SC)	Costello	Gohmert
Barrow	Crenshaw	Goode
Bartlett (MD)	Cubin	Goodlatte
Barton (TX)	Culberson	Granger
Bean	Davis (KY)	Graves
Biggett	Davis, David	Hall (TX)
Bilbray	Davis, Tom	Harman
Bilirakis	Deal (GA)	Hastert
Bishop (UT)	DeFazio	Hastings (WA)
Blackburn	Dent	Hayes
Blunt	Dicks	Heller
Boehner	Donnelly	Hensarling
Bono	Doolittle	Herger
Boozman	Drake	Herseth Sandlin
Boren	Dreier	Hobson
Boswell	Duncan	Hoekstra
Boustany	Ehlers	Holden
Boyd (KS)	Ellsworth	Hulshof
Brady (IA)	Emerson	Hunter
Brown (SC)	English (PA)	Inglis (SC)
Brown-Waite,	Everett	Israel
Ginny	Fallin	Issa
Buchanan	Feeney	Jindal
Burgess	Ferguson	Johnson (IL)
Burton (IN)	Flake	Johnson, Sam
Buyer	Forbes	Jones (NC)
Calvert	Fortenberry	Jordan
Camp (MI)	Fossella	Keller
Campbell (CA)	Fox	Kind
Cannon	Franks (AZ)	King (IA)

King (NY)	Mitchell	Schmidt
Kingston	Moore (KS)	Schwartz
Kirk	Moran (KS)	Sensenbrenner
Kline (MN)	Moran (VA)	Sestak
Knollenberg	Murphy, Patrick	Shadegg
Kuhl (NY)	Murphy, Tim	Shays
LaHood	Musgrave	Shinkus
Lamborn	Myrick	Shuler
Lampson	Neugebauer	Shuster
Latham	Nunes	Simpson
LaTourette	Pearce	Smith (NE)
Lewis (CA)	Pence	Smith (NJ)
Lewis (KY)	Peterson (PA)	Smith (TX)
Linder	Petri	Souder
Lipinski	Pitts	Space
LoBiondo	Platts	Spratt
Loeb sack	Poe	Stearns
Lucas	Pomeroy	Sullivan
Lungren, Daniel	Porter	Tancredo
E.	Price (GA)	Terry
Mack	Pryce (OH)	Thornberry
Mahoney (FL)	Putnam	Tiahrt
Manzullo	Ramstad	Tiberi
Marchant	Rangel	Turner
Matheson	Regula	Upton
McCarthy (CA)	Rehberg	Walberg
McCaul (TX)	Reichert	Walden (OR)
McCotter	Renzi	Walsh (NY)
McCrery	Reynolds	Walz (MN)
McHenry	Rogers (AL)	Wamp
McHugh	Rogers (KY)	Weldon (FL)
McKeon	Rogers (MI)	Weller
McMorris	Rohrabacher	Whitfield
Rodgers	Roskam	Wicker
Mica	Ross	Wilson (NM)
Michaud	Royce	Wilson (SC)
Miller (FL)	Ryan (WI)	Wolf
Miller (MI)	Sali	Young (AK)
Miller, Gary	Saxton	Young (FL)

NOES—195

Abercrombie	Farr	McIntyre
Allen	Fattah	McNerney
Baca	Filner	McNulty
Baird	Fortuño	Meehan
Baldwin	Frank (MA)	Meek (FL)
Becerra	Giffords	Meeks (NY)
Berkley	Gonzalez	Melancon
Berman	Gordon	Miller (NC)
Berry	Green, Al	Mollohan
Bishop (GA)	Green, Gene	Moore (WI)
Bishop (NY)	Grijalva	Murphy (CT)
Blumenauer	Hall (NY)	Murtha
Bordallo	Hare	Nadler
Boucher	Hastings (FL)	Napolitano
Boyd (FL)	Higgins	Neal (MA)
Brady (PA)	Hill	Norton
Brown, Corrine	Hinchey	Oberstar
Butterfield	Hinojosa	Obey
Capps	Hirono	Olver
Capuano	Hodes	Ortiz
Cardoza	Holt	Pallone
Carnahan	Honda	Pascarell
Carney	Hoolley	Pastor
Carson	Hoyer	Payne
Castor	Inslee	Perlmutter
Chandler	Jackson (IL)	Peterson (MN)
Christensen	Jackson-Lee	Price (NC)
Clarke	(TX)	Radanovich
Clay	Jefferson	Rahall
Cleaver	Johnson (GA)	Reyes
Clyburn	Johnson, E. B.	Rodriguez
Cohen	Jones (OH)	Ros-Lehtinen
Conyers	Kagen	Rothman
Cooper	Kanjorski	Roybal-Allard
Costa	Kaptur	Ruppersberger
Courtney	Kennedy	Ryan (OH)
Cramer	Kildee	Salazar
Crowley	Kilpatrick	Sánchez, Linda
Cummings	Kueller	T.
Davis (AL)	Kucinich	Sanchez, Loretta
Davis (CA)	Langevin	Sarbanes
Davis (IL)	Lantos	Schakowsky
Davis, Lincoln	Larsen (WA)	Schiff
DeGette	Larson (CT)	Scott (GA)
Delahunt	Lee	Scott (VA)
DeLauro	Levin	Serrano
Diaz-Balart, L.	Lewis (GA)	Shea-Porter
Diaz-Balart, M.	Lofgren, Zoe	Sherman
Dingell	Lowey	Sires
Doggett	Lynch	Skelton
Doyle	Maloney (NY)	Slaughter
Edwards	Markey	Smith (WA)
Ellison	Marshall	Snyder
Emanuel	Matsui	Solis
Engel	McCarthy (NY)	Stark
Eshoo	McCollum (MN)	Sutton
Etheridge	McDermott	Tanner
	McGovern	Tauscher

Taylor	Velázquez	Weiner
Thompson (CA)	Visclosky	Welch (VT)
Thompson (MS)	Wasserman	Wexler
Tierney	Schultz	Wilson (OH)
Towns	Waters	Woolsey
Udall (CO)	Watson	Wu
Udall (NM)	Watt	Wynn
Van Hollen	Waxman	Yarmuth

NOT VOTING—14

Ackerman	Faleomavaega	Rush
Andrews	Gutierrez	Sessions
Bonner	Miller, George	Stupak
Brady (TX)	Paul	Westmoreland
Davis, Jo Ann	Pickering	

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE ACTING CHAIRMAN

The Acting CHAIRMAN (during the vote). Members are advised there are 30 seconds remaining on this vote.

□ 1032

So the amendment was agreed to.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

AMENDMENT OFFERED BY MR. BILBRAY

The Acting CHAIRMAN. The unfinished business is the demand for a recorded vote on the amendment offered by the gentleman from California (Mr. BILBRAY) on which further proceedings were postponed and on which the noes prevailed by voice vote.

The Clerk will redesignate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

Amendment offered by Mr. BILBRAY:

Page 26, line 10, after the first dollar amount, insert “(reduced by \$150,000,000)”.

Page 26, line 22, after the dollar amount, insert “(reduced by \$150,000,000)”.

Page 39, line 14, after the dollar amount, insert “(increased by \$150,000,000)”.

Page 41, line 7, after the dollar amount, insert “(increased by \$150,000,000)”.

RECORDED VOTE

The Acting CHAIRMAN. A recorded vote has been demanded.

A recorded vote was ordered.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. This will be a 2-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—ayes 155, noes 268, not voting 14, as follows:

[Roll No. 479]

AYES—155

Aderholt	Cole (OK)	Goode
Altmire	Cooper	Goodlatte
Bachmann	Costa	Gordon
Baird	Cramer	Graves
Barrett (SC)	Cubin	Hall (NY)
Barrow	Cuellar	Hall (TX)
Bartlett (MD)	Culberson	Hayes
Barton (TX)	Davis (AL)	Heller
Bean	Davis (KY)	Hensarling
Berkley	Davis, David	Herseth Sandlin
Bilbray	Davis, Lincoln	Hill
Bishop (UT)	Deal (GA)	Hooley
Blackburn	DeFazio	Hulshof
Blunt	Dent	Hunter
Boehner	Donnelly	Inglis (SC)
Boren	Doolittle	Issa
Boswell	Dreier	Johnson (IL)
Boyd (KS)	Duncan	Johnson, Sam
Buchanan	Ellsworth	Jones (NC)
Burgess	Emerson	Jordan
Burton (IN)	English (PA)	Keller
Calvert	Fallin	King (IA)
Camp (MI)	Flake	Kingston
Campbell (CA)	Fortenberry	Kirk
Cannon	Fox	Kline (MN)
Cantor	Galleghy	LaHood
Capito	Gerlach	Lamborn
Cardoza	Giffords	Latham
Carney	Gillibrand	Lewis (KY)
Castle	Gingrey	Linder
Chabot	Gohmert	Lucas

Manzullo	Myrick	Sensenbrenner
Marchant	Neugebauer	Shays
Marshall	Nunes	Shuler
Matheson	Obey	Shuster
McCarthy (CA)	Pence	Smith (NE)
McCaul (TX)	Peterson (MN)	Smith (TX)
McCotter	Petri	Space
McHenry	Pitts	Stearns
McHugh	Poe	Sullivan
McIntyre	Porter	Tancred
McKeon	Price (GA)	Tanner
McNerney	Radanovich	Thornberry
McNulty	Ramstad	Tiaht
Miller (FL)	Renzi	Tiberi
Miller (MI)	Rogers (AL)	Udall (CO)
Miller, Gary	Rogers (MI)	Upton
Mitchell	Rohrabacher	Walden (OR)
Moore (KS)	Ross	Walsh (NY)
Moran (KS)	Royce	Weller
Murphy, Tim	Ryan (WI)	Wolf
Musgrave	Schmidt	

NOES—268

Abercrombie	Filner	Matsui
Akin	Forbes	McCarthy (NY)
Alexander	Fortuño	McCollum (MN)
Allen	Fossella	McCrery
Arcuri	Frank (MA)	McDermott
Baca	Franks (AZ)	McGovern
Bachus	Frelinghuysen	McMorris
Baker	Garrett (NJ)	Rodgers
Baldwin	Gilchrest	Meehan
Becerra	Gillmor	Meek (FL)
Berman	Gonzalez	Meeks (NY)
Berry	Granger	Melancon
Biggert	Green, Al	Mica
Bilirakis	Green, Gene	Michaud
Bishop (GA)	Grijalva	Miller (NC)
Bishop (NY)	Hare	Mollohan
Blumenauer	Harman	Moore (WI)
Bono	Hastert	Moran (VA)
Boozman	Hastings (FL)	Murphy (CT)
Bordallo	Hastings (WA)	Murphy, Patrick
Boucher	Herger	Murtha
Boustany	Higgins	Nadler
Boyd (FL)	Hinche	Napolitano
Brady (PA)	Hinojosa	Neal (MA)
Braley (IA)	Hirono	Norton
Brown (SC)	Hobson	Oberstar
Brown, Corrine	Hodes	Oliver
Brown-Waite,	Hoekstra	Ortiz
Ginny	Holden	Pallone
Butterfield	Holt	Pascarell
Buyer	Honda	Pastor
Capps	Hoyer	Payne
Capuano	Inslee	Pearce
Carnahan	Israel	Perlmutter
Carson	Jackson (IL)	Peterson (PA)
Carter	Jackson-Lee	Platts
Castor	(TX)	Pomeroy
Chandler	Jefferson	Price (NC)
Christensen	Jindal	Pryce (OH)
Clarke	Johnson (GA)	Putnam
Clay	Johnson, E. B.	Rahall
Cleaver	Jones (OH)	Rangel
Clyburn	Kagen	Regula
Coble	Kanjorski	Rehberg
Cohen	Kaptur	Reichert
Conaway	Kennedy	Reyes
Conyers	Kildee	Reynolds
Costello	Kilpatrick	Rodriguez
Courtney	Kind	Rogers (KY)
Crenshaw	King (NY)	Ros-Lehtinen
Crowley	Klein (FL)	Roskam
Cummings	Knollenberg	Rothman
Davis (CA)	Kucinich	Roybal-Allard
Davis (IL)	Kuhl (NY)	Ruppersberger
Davis, Tom	Lampson	Rush
DeGette	Langevin	Ryan (OH)
Delahunt	Lantos	Salazar
DeLauro	Larsen (WA)	Sali
Diaz-Balart, L.	Larson (CT)	Sánchez, Linda
Diaz-Balart, M.	LaTourette	T.
Dicks	Lee	Sanchez, Loretta
Dingell	Levin	Sarbanes
Doggett	Lewis (CA)	Saxton
Doyle	Lewis (GA)	Schakowsky
Drake	Lipinski	Schiff
Edwards	LoBiondo	Schwartz
Ehlers	Loeback	Scott (GA)
Ellison	Lofgren, Zoe	Scott (VA)
Engel	Lowe	Serrano
Eshoo	Lungren, Daniel	Sestak
Etheridge	E.	Shadegg
Everett	Lynch	Shea-Porter
Farr	Mack	Sherman
Fattah	Mahoney (FL)	Shimkus
Feeney	Maloney (NY)	Simpson
Ferguson	Markey	Sires

Skelton	Towns	Welch (VT)
Slaughter	Turner	Weldon (FL)
Smith (NJ)	Udall (NM)	Wexler
Smith (WA)	Van Hollen	Whitfield
Snyder	Velázquez	Wicker
Solis	Visclosky	Wilson (NM)
Souder	Walberg	Wilson (OH)
Spratt	Walz (MN)	Wilson (SC)
Stark	Wamp	Woolsey
Sutton	Wasserman	Wu
Tauscher	Schultz	Wynn
Taylor	Waters	Yarmuth
Terry	Watson	Young (AK)
Thompson (CA)	Watt	Young (FL)
Thompson (MS)	Waxman	
Tierney	Weiner	

NOT VOTING—14

Ackerman	Emanuel	Pickering
Andrews	Faleomavaega	Sessions
Bonner	Gutierrez	Stupak
Brady (TX)	Miller, George	Westmoreland
Davis, Jo Ann	Paul	

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE ACTING CHAIRMAN

The Acting CHAIRMAN (during the vote). Members are advised there are 30 seconds remaining in this vote.

□ 1035

So the amendment was rejected.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

AMENDMENT NO. 99 OFFERED BY MR. MCCAUL OF TEXAS

The Acting CHAIRMAN. The unfinished business is the demand for a recorded vote on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Texas (Mr. MCCAUL) on which further proceedings were postponed and on which the noes prevailed by voice vote.

The Clerk will redesignate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

Amendment offered by Mr. MCCAUL of Texas:

Strike section 531 (page 69, beginning at line 4).

RECORDED VOTE

The Acting CHAIRMAN. A recorded vote has been demanded.

A recorded vote was ordered.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. This will be a 2-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—ayes 184, noes 238, not voting 15, as follows:

[Roll No. 480]

AYES—184

Aderholt	Calvert	Emerson
Akin	Camp (MI)	English (PA)
Alexander	Campbell (CA)	Everett
Bachmann	Cannon	Fallin
Bachus	Cantor	Feeney
Baker	Capito	Flake
Barrett (SC)	Carter	Forbes
Barrow	Castle	Fortenberry
Bartlett (MD)	Chabot	Fortuño
Barton (TX)	Coble	Fossella
Biggert	Cole (OK)	Fox
Bilbray	Conaway	Franks (AZ)
Bilirakis	Crenshaw	Frelinghuysen
Bishop (UT)	Cubin	Galleghy
Blackburn	Culberson	Garrett (NJ)
Blunt	Davis (KY)	Gerlach
Boehner	Davis, David	Gilchrest
Bono	Davis, Tom	Gingrey
Boozman	Deal (GA)	Gohmert
Boustany	Dent	Goode
Brown (SC)	Diaz-Balart, L.	Goodlatte
Brown-Waite,	Diaz-Balart, M.	Granger
Ginny	Doolittle	Graves
Buchanan	Drake	Hall (TX)
Burgess	Dreier	Hastings (WA)
Burton (IN)	Duncan	Hayes
Buyer	Ehlers	Heller

Hensarling
Herger
Hobson
Hulshof
Hunter
Inglis (SC)
Issa
Jindal
Johnson (IL)
Johnson, Sam
Jones (NC)
Jordan
Keller
King (IA)
King (NY)
Kingston
Kirk
Kline (MN)
Knollenberg
Kuhl (NY)
LaHood
Lamborn
Latham
Lewis (CA)
Lewis (KY)
Linder
Lucas
Lungren, Daniel E.
Mack
Manzullo
Marchant
Marshall
McCarthy (CA)
McCaul (TX)
McCrery

McHenry
McKeon
McMorris
Rodgers
Mica
Miller (FL)
Miller, Gary
Moran (KS)
Musgrave
Myrick
Neugebauer
Nunes
Pearce
Pence
Peterson (PA)
Petri
Pitts
Platts
Poe
Porter
Price (GA)
Pryce (OH)
Putnam
Radanovich
Ramstad
Rehberg
Reichert
Renzi
Reynolds
Rogers (AL)
Rogers (KY)
Rogers (MI)
Rohrabacher
Ros-Lehtinen
Roskam
Royce

Ryan (WI)
Sali
Schmidt
Sensenbrenner
Shadegg
Shays
Shimkus
Shuster
Simpson
Smith (NE)
Smith (TX)
Souder
Stearns
Sullivan
Tancredo
Terry
Thornberry
Tiahrt
Tiberi
Turner
Upton
Walberg
Walden (OR)
Walsh (NY)
Wamp
Weldon (FL)
Weller
Whitfield
Wicker
Wilson (NM)
Wilson (SC)
Wolf
Young (AK)
Young (FL)

Rothman
Roybal-Allard
Ruppersberger
Rush
Ryan (OH)
Salazar
Sánchez, Linda T.
Sanchez, Loretta
Sarbanes
Saxton
Schakowsky
Schiff
Schwartz
Scott (GA)
Scott (VA)
Serrano
Sestak
Shea-Porter
Sherman

Shuler
Sires
Skelton
Slaughter
Smith (NJ)
Smith (WA)
Snyder
Solis
Space
Spratt
Stark
Sutton
Tanner
Tauscher
Taylor
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)
Tierney
Towns
Udall (NM)

Van Hollen
Velázquez
Visclosky
Walz (MN)
Wasserman
Schultz
Waters
Watson
Watt
Waxman
Weiner
Welch (VT)
Wexler
Wilson (OH)
Woolsey
Wu
Wynn
Yarmuth

Franks (AZ)
Frelinghuysen
Gallegly
Garrett (NJ)
Gerlach
Gillmor
Gingrey
Gohmert
Goode
Goodlatte
Granger
Hall (TX)
Hastert
Hastings (WA)
Hayes
Heller
Hensarling
Herger
Hobson
Hulshof
Hunter
Inglis (SC)
Issa
Johnson, Sam
Jordan
King (IA)
Kingston
Kline (MN)
Knollenberg
Kuhl (NY)
LaHood
Lamborn
Latham
LaTourette
Lewis (CA)
Lewis (KY)
Linder
Lucas

Lungren, Daniel E.
Mack
Manzullo
Marchant
McCarthy (CA)
McCotter
McCrery
McHenry
McKeon
McMorris
Rodgers
Mica
Miller (FL)
Miller (MI)
Miller, Gary
Moran (KS)
Musgrave
Myrick
Neugebauer
Nunes
Pearce
Pence
Peterson (PA)
Petri
Pitts
Poe
Price (GA)
Pryce (OH)
Putnam
Radanovich
Ramstad
Regula
Rehberg
Reichert
Renzi
Reynolds
Rogers (AL)

Rogers (KY)
Rogers (MI)
Rohrabacher
Ros-Lehtinen
Roskam
Royce
Ryan (WI)
Sali
Schmidt
Sensenbrenner
Shadegg
Shays
Shimkus
Shuster
Simpson
Smith (NE)
Smith (TX)
Souder
Stearns
Sullivan
Tancredo
Terry
Thornberry
Tiahrt
Tiberi
Turner
Upton
Walberg
Walden (OR)
Walsh (NY)
Wamp
Weldon (FL)
Whitfield
Wicker
Wilson (SC)
Wolf
Young (AK)
Young (FL)

NOT VOTING—15

Ackerman
Andrews
Bonner
Brady (TX)
Davis, Jo Ann
Faleomavaega
Gutierrez
Hastert
Miller, George
Paul
Pickering
Sessions
Stupak
Udall (CO)
Westmoreland

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE ACTING CHAIRMAN

The Acting CHAIRMAN (during the vote). Members are advised there are 30 seconds remaining on this vote.

□ 1038

So the amendment was rejected.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

AMENDMENT NO. 2 OFFERED BY MR. ROGERS OF KENTUCKY

The Acting CHAIRMAN. The unfinished business is the demand for a recorded vote on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Kentucky (Mr. ROGERS) on which further proceedings were postponed and on which the noes prevailed by voice vote.

The Clerk will redesignate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

Amendment offered by Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky:

At the end of the bill (before the short title), insert the following:

SEC. _____. None of the funds made available under this Act may be used to recruit or hire a total of more than 45,000 full-time equivalent airport screeners.

RECORDED VOTE

The Acting CHAIRMAN. A recorded vote has been demanded.

A recorded vote was ordered.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. This will be a 2-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—ayes 168, noes 255, not voting 14, as follows:

[Roll No. 481]

AYES—168

Abercrombie
Allen
Altmire
Arcuri
Baca
Baird
Baldwin
Bean
Becerra
Berkley
Berman
Berry
Bishop (GA)
Bishop (NY)
Blumenauer
Bordallo
Boren
Boswell
Boucher
Boyd (FL)
Boyda (KS)
Brady (PA)
Braley (IA)
Brown, Corrine
Butterfield
Capps
Capuano
Cardoza
Carnahan
Carney
Carson
Castor
Chandler
Christensen
Clarke
Clay
Cleaver
Clyburn
Cohen
Conyers
Cooper
Costa
Costello
Courtney
Cramer
Crowley
Cuellar
Cummings
Davis (AL)
Davis (CA)
Davis (IL)
Davis, Lincoln
DeFazio
DeGette
Delahunt
DeLauro
Dicks
Dingell
Doggett
Donnelly
Doyle

Edwards
Ellison
Ellsworth
Emanuel
Engel
Eshoo
Etheridge
Farr
Fattah
Ferguson
Filner
Frank (MA)
Giffords
Gillibrand
Gillmor
Gonzalez
Gordon
Green, Al
Green, Gene
Grijalva
Hall (NY)
Hare
Harman
Hastings (FL)
Herseth Sandlin
Higgins
Hill
Hinchey
Hinojosa
Hirono
Hodes
Hoekstra
Holden
Holt
Honda
Hooley
Hoyer
Inslee
Israel
Jackson (IL)
Jackson-Lee (TX)
Jefferson
Johnson (GA)
Johnson, E. B.
Jones (OH)
Kagen
Kanjorski
Kaptur
Kennedy
Kildee
Kilpatrick
Kind
Klein (FL)
Kucinich
Lampson
Langevin
Lantos
Larsen (WA)
Larson (CT)
LaTourette

Lee
Levin
Lewis (GA)
Lipinski
LoBiondo
Loebsack
Lofgren, Zoe
Lowey
Lynch
Mahoney (FL)
Maloney (NY)
Markley
Matheson
Matsui
McCarthy (NY)
McCollum (MN)
McCotter
McDermott
McGovern
McHugh
McIntyre
McNerney
McNulty
Meehan
Meek (FL)
Meeks (NY)
Melancon
Michaud
Miller (MI)
Miller (NC)
Mitchell
Mollohan
Moore (KS)
Moore (WI)
Moran (VA)
Murphy (CT)
Murphy, Patrick
Murphy, Tim
Murtha
Nadler
Napolitano
Neal (MA)
Norton
Oberstar
Obey
Olver
Ortiz
Pallone
Pascrell
Pastor
Payne
Perlmutter
Peterson (MN)
Pomeroy
Price (NC)
Rahall
Rangel
Regula
Reyes
Rodriguez
Ross

Aderholt
Akin
Bachmann
Bachus
Baker
Barrett (SC)
Bartlett (MD)
Barton (TX)
Biggert
Bilbray
Bilirakis
Bishop (UT)
Blackburn
Blunt
Boehner
Bono
Boozman
Boustany
Brown (SC)

Brown-Waite,
Ginny
Buchanan
Burgess
Burton (IN)
Buyer
Calvert
Camp (MI)
Campbell (CA)
Cannon
Carter
Castle
Chabot
Coble
Cole (OK)
Conaway
Crenshaw
Cubin
Culberson

Davis (KY)
Davis, David
Deal (GA)
Diaz-Balart, L.
Diaz-Balart, M.
Doolittle
Drake
Dreier
Duncan
Ehlers
Emerson
Everett
Fallin
Feeney
Flake
Forbes
Fortenberry
Fortuño
Foxy

Abercrombie
Alexander
Allen
Altmire
Arcuri
Baca
Baird
Baldwin
Barrow
Bean
Becerra
Berkley
Berman
Berry
Bishop (GA)
Bishop (NY)
Blumenauer
Bordallo
Boren
Boswell
Boucher
Boyd (FL)
Boyda (KS)
Brady (PA)
Braley (IA)
Brown, Corrine
Butterfield
Cantor
Capito
Capps
Capuano
Cardoza
Carnahan
Carney
Carson
Castor
Chandler
Christensen
Clarke
Clay
Cleaver
Clyburn
Cohen
Conyers
Cooper
Costa
Costello
Courtney
Cramer
Crowley
Cuellar
Cummings
Davis (AL)
Davis (CA)
Davis (IL)
Davis, Lincoln
Davis, Tom
DeFazio
DeGette

NOES—255

Delahunt
DeLauro
Dent
Dicks
Dingell
Doggett
Donnelly
Doyle
Edwards
Ellison
Ellsworth
Emanuel
Engel
English (PA)
Eshoo
Etheridge
Farr
Fattah
Ferguson
Filner
Fossella
Frank (MA)
Giffords
Gilchrest
Gillibrand
Gonzalez
Gordon
Green, Al
Green, Gene
Grijalva
Hall (NY)
Hare
Harman
Hastings (FL)
Herseth Sandlin
Higgins
Hill
Hinchey
Hinojosa
Hirono
Hodes
Hoekstra
Holden
Holt
Honda
Hooley
Hoyer
Inslee
Israel
Jackson (IL)
Jackson-Lee (TX)
Jefferson
Jindal
Johnson (GA)
Johnson (IL)
Johnson, E. B.
Jones (NC)
Jones (OH)

Kagen
Kanjorski
Kaptur
Keller
Kennedy
Kildee
Kilpatrick
Kind
King (NY)
Kirk
Klein (FL)
Kucinich
Lampson
Langevin
Lantos
Larsen (WA)
Larson (CT)
Lee
Levin
Lewis (GA)
Lipinski
LoBiondo
Loebsack
Lofgren, Zoe
Lowey
Lynch
Mahoney (FL)
Maloney (NY)
Markley
Marshall
Matheson
Matsui
McCarthy (NY)
McCaul (TX)
McCollum (MN)
McDermott
McGovern
McHugh
McIntyre
McNerney
McNulty
Meehan
Meek (FL)
Meeks (NY)
Melancon
Michaud
Miller (NC)
Mitchell
Mollohan
Moore (KS)
Moore (WI)
Moran (VA)
Murphy (CT)
Murphy, Patrick
Murphy, Tim
Murtha
Nadler
Napolitano
Neal (MA)

Norton	Sanchez, Loretta	Thompson (MS)	Bilbray	Goode	Mitchell	Melancon	Renzi	Sutton
Oberstar	Sarbanes	Tierney	Bilirakis	Gordon	Moran (KS)	Mica	Reyes	Tanner
Obey	Saxton	Towns	Bishop (UT)	Graves	Murphy, Patrick	Michaud	Reynolds	Tauscher
Olver	Schakowsky	Udall (CO)	Blackburn	Green, Gene	Musgrave	Miller (MI)	Rodriguez	Taylor
Ortiz	Schiff	Udall (NM)	Bordallo	Heller	Myrick	Miller (NC)	Rogers (AL)	Thompson (CA)
Pallone	Schwartz	Van Hollen	Boustany	Hensarling	Pearce	Mollohan	Rogers (KY)	Thompson (MS)
Pascarell	Scott (GA)	Velázquez	Boyd (KS)	Hinchey	Poe	Moore (KS)	Rogers (MI)	Thornberry
Pastor	Scott (VA)	Visclosky	Buchanan	Hunter	Price (GA)	Moran (VA)	Roskam	Tiahrt
Payne	Serrano	Walz (MN)	Cannon	Inglis (SC)	Rehberg	Murphy (CT)	Rothman	Tiberi
Perlmutter	Sestak	Wasserman	Conaway	Jindal	Rohrabacher	Murphy, Tim	Roybal-Allard	Tierney
Peterson (MN)	Shea-Porter	Schultz	Cooper	Johnson (IL)	Ros-Lehtinen	Murtha	Ruppersberger	Towns
Platts	Sherman	Waters	Culberson	Johnson, Sam	Ross	Nadler	Rush	Turner
Pomeroy	Shuler	Watson	Davis (KY)	Jones (NC)	Royce	Napolitano	Ryan (OH)	Udall (CO)
Porter	Sires	Watt	Davis, David	King (IA)	Sali	Neal (MA)	Ryan (WI)	Udall (NM)
Price (NC)	Skelton	Waxman	Davis, Lincoln	Kingston	Sánchez, Linda	Neugebauer	Salazar	Upton
Rahall	Slaughter	Weiner	Deal (GA)	Lamborn	T.	Norton	Sanchez, Loretta	Van Hollen
Rangel	Smith (NJ)	Welch (VT)	Diaz-Balart, L.	Lewis (KY)	Schmidt	Nunes	Sarbanes	Velázquez
Reyes	Smith (WA)	Weller	Diaz-Balart, M.	Linder	Shimkus	Oberstar	Saxton	Visclosky
Rodriguez	Snyder	Wexler	Donnelly	Lynch	Shuler	Obey	Schakowsky	Walberg
Ross	Solis	Wilson (NM)	Drake	Mack	Smith (TX)	Olver	Schiff	Walsh (NY)
Rothman	Space	Wilson (OH)	Duncan	Mahoney (FL)	Space	Ortiz	Schwartz	Walz (MN)
Roybal-Allard	Spratt	Woolsey	Ellsworth	Marchant	Stearns	Pallone	Scott (GA)	Wamp
Ruppersberger	Stark	Wu	Flake	Marshall	Sullivan	Pascarell	Scott (VA)	Wasserman
Rush	Sutton	Wynn	Fortenberry	McCaul (TX)	Tancred	Pastor	Sensenbrenner	Schultz
Ryan (OH)	Tanner	Yarmuth	Fortuño	McCrery	Terry	Payne	Serrano	Waters
Salazar	Tauscher		Foxx	McHenry	Walden (OR)	Pence	Sestak	Watson
Sánchez, Linda	Taylor		Gingrey	Miller (FL)	Wilson (NM)	Perlmutter	Shadegg	Watt
T.	Thompson (CA)		Gohmert	Miller, Gary	Wilson (SC)	Peterson (MN)	Shays	Waxman
						Peterson (PA)	Shea-Porter	Weiner
						Petri	Sherman	Welch (VT)
						Pitts	Shuster	Weldon (FL)
						Platts	Simpson	Weller
						Pomeroy	Sires	Wexler
						Porter	Skelton	Whitfield
						Price (NC)	Slaughter	Wicker
						Pryce (OH)	Smith (NE)	Wilson (OH)
						Putnam	Smith (NJ)	Wolf
						Radanovich	Smith (WA)	Woolsey
						Rahall	Snyder	Wu
						Ramstad	Solis	Wynn
						Rangel	Souder	Yarmuth
						Regula	Spratt	Young (AK)
						Reichert	Stark	Young (FL)

NOT VOTING—14

Ackerman	Faleomavaega	Pickering
Andrews	Graves	Sessions
Bonner	Gutierrez	Stupak
Brady (TX)	Miller, George	Westmoreland
Davis, Jo Ann	Paul	

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE ACTING CHAIRMAN

The Acting CHAIRMAN (during the vote). Members are advised there are 30 seconds remaining in this vote.

The Chair reminds Members the next eight votes will be 2-minute votes with a 30-second warning. Members are encouraged to remain on the floor.

□ 1042

So the amendment was rejected.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

AMENDMENT NO. 28 OFFERED BY MR. POE

The Acting CHAIRMAN. The unfinished business is the demand for a recorded vote on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Texas (Mr. POE) on which further proceedings were postponed and on which the noes prevailed by voice vote.

The Clerk will redesignate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

Amendment No. 28 offered by Mr. POE:

At the end of title V, add the following new section:

SEC. _____. None of the funds made available in this Act may be used by the Secretary of Homeland Security to implement a plan under section 7209 of the Intelligence Reform and Terrorism Prevention Act of 2004 (Public Law 108-458; 8 U.S.C. 1185 note) that permits travel into the United States from foreign countries using any document other than a passport to denote citizenship and identity.

RECORDED VOTE

The Acting CHAIRMAN. A recorded vote has been demanded.

A recorded vote was ordered.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. This will be a 2-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—ayes 89, noes 331, not voting 17, as follows:

[Roll No. 482]

AYES—89

Alexander	Barrow	Bean
Baker	Bartlett (MD)	Biggert

NOES—331

Abercrombie	Cummings	Hooley
Aderholt	Davis (AL)	Hoyer
Akin	Davis (CA)	Hulshof
Allen	Davis (IL)	Inslee
Altmire	Davis, Tom	Israel
Arcuri	DeFazio	Issa
Baca	DeGette	Jackson (IL)
Bachmann	Delahunt	Jackson-Lee
Bachus	DeLauro	(TX)
Baird	Dent	Jefferson
Baldwin	Dicks	Johnson (GA)
Barrett (SC)	Dingell	Johnson, E. B.
Barton (TX)	Doggett	Jones (OH)
Berkley	Doolittle	Jordan
Berman	Doyle	Kagen
Berry	Dreier	Kanjorski
Bishop (GA)	Edwards	Kaptur
Bishop (NY)	Ehlers	Keller
Blumenauer	Ellison	Kennedy
Blunt	Emanuel	Kildee
Boehner	Emerson	Kilpatrick
Bono	Engel	Kind
Boozman	English (PA)	King (NY)
Boren	Eshoo	Kirk
Boswell	Etheridge	Klein (FL)
Boucher	Everett	Kline (MN)
Boyd (FL)	Fallin	Knollenberg
Brady (PA)	Farr	Kucinich
Braley (IA)	Fattah	Kuhl (NY)
Brown (SC)	Feeney	LaHood
Brown, Corrine	Ferguson	Lampson
Brown-Waite,	Filner	Langevin
Ginny	Forbes	Lantos
Burgess	Fossella	Larsen (WA)
Burton (IN)	Frank (MA)	Larson (CT)
Butterfield	Franks (AZ)	Latham
Buyer	Frelinghuysen	LaTourette
Calvert	Gallegly	Lee
Camp (MI)	Garrett (NJ)	Levin
Campbell (CA)	Gerlach	Lewis (CA)
Cantor	Giffords	Lewis (GA)
Capito	Gilchrest	Lipinski
Capps	Gillibrand	LoBiondo
Capuano	Gillmor	Loeback
Carnahan	Gonzalez	Lofgren, Zoe
Carney	Goodlatte	Lowey
Carson	Granger	Lucas
Carter	Green, Al	Lungren, Daniel
Castle	Grijalva	E.
Castor	Hall (NY)	Maloney (NY)
Chabot	Hall (TX)	Manzullo
Chandler	Hare	Markey
Christensen	Harman	Matheson
Clarke	Hastert	Matsui
Clay	Hastings (FL)	McCarthy (CA)
Cleaver	Hastings (WA)	McCarthy (NY)
Clyburn	Hayes	McCollum (MN)
Coble	Herger	McCotter
Cohen	Hersteth Sandlin	McDermott
Cole (OK)	Higgins	McGovern
Conyers	Hill	McHugh
Costa	Hinojosa	McIntyre
Costello	Hirono	McKeon
Courtney	Hobson	McMorris
Cramer	Hodes	Rodgers
Crenshaw	Hoekstra	McNerney
Crowley	Holden	McNulty
Cubin	Holt	Meek (FL)
Cuellar	Honda	Meeks (NY)

NOT VOTING—17

Ackerman	Davis, Jo Ann	Paul
Andrews	Faleomavaega	Pickering
Becerra	Gutierrez	Sessions
Bonner	Meehan	Stupak
Brady (TX)	Miller, George	Westmoreland
Cardoza	Moore (WI)	

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE ACTING CHAIRMAN

The Acting CHAIRMAN (during the vote). Members are advised that there are 30 seconds remaining in this vote.

□ 1046

So the amendment was rejected.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

Stated against:

Ms. LINDA T. SANCHEZ. Madam Speaker, on rollcall 482 today I voted “aye.” I intended to vote “no.”

Mr. BECERRA. Mr. Chairman, today, I was unable to cast my floor vote on rollcall No. 482. Had I been present for the vote, I would have voted “no” on rollcall vote No. 482.

AMENDMENT NO. 113 OFFERED BY MR.

LATOURETTE

The Acting CHAIRMAN. The unfinished business is the demand for a recorded vote on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. LATOURETTE) on which further proceedings were postponed and on which the ayes prevailed by voice vote.

The Clerk will redesignate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

Amendment offered by Mr. LATOURETTE:

At the end of title V, add the following new section:

SEC. _____. None of the funds made available in this Act may be used to implement any plan developed under section 7209(b)(1) of the Intelligence Reform and Terrorism Prevention Act of 2004 (Public Law 108-458; 8 U.S.C. 1185 note) before June 1, 2009.

RECORDED VOTE

The Acting CHAIRMAN. A recorded vote has been demanded.

A recorded vote was ordered.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. This will be a 2-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—ayes 379, noes 45, not voting 13, as follows:

[Roll No. 483]

AYES—379

Abercrombie	Davis, Tom	Jackson-Lee
Aderholt	DeFazio	(TX)
Akin	DeGette	Jefferson
Alexander	Delahunt	Jindal
Allen	DeLauro	Johnson (IL)
Altmire	Dent	Johnson, E. B.
Arcuri	Diaz-Balart, L.	Johnson, Sam
Baca	Diaz-Balart, M.	Jones (OH)
Bachmann	Dicks	Kagen
Bachus	Dingell	Kaptur
Baird	Doggett	Kennedy
Baker	Donnelly	Kildee
Baldwin	Doolittle	Kilpatrick
Barrett (SC)	Doyle	Kind
Bean	Drake	King (IA)
Becerra	Dreier	Kingston
Berkley	Edwards	Kirk
Berman	Ehlers	Klein (FL)
Berry	Ellison	Kline (MN)
Biggert	Ellsworth	Knollenberg
Billbray	Emanuel	Kucinich
Bilirakis	Emerson	Kuhl (NY)
Bishop (GA)	Engel	Lampson
Bishop (NY)	English (PA)	Langevin
Bishop (UT)	Eshoo	Lantos
Blumenauer	Etheridge	Larsen (WA)
Blunt	Everett	Larson (CT)
Boehner	Fallin	Latham
Bono	Farr	LaTourette
Boozman	Fattah	Lee
Bordallo	Ferguson	Levin
Boren	Filner	Lewis (CA)
Boswell	Flake	Lewis (GA)
Boucher	Forbes	Linder
Boustany	Fortenberry	Lipinski
Boyd (FL)	Fortuno	LoBiondo
Boyd (KS)	Fossella	Loebisack
Brady (PA)	Fox	Lofgren, Zoe
Braley (IA)	Frank (MA)	Lowey
Brown (SC)	Frelinghuysen	Lucas
Brown, Corrine	Gallegly	Lynch
Buchanan	Gerlach	Mack
Burgess	Giffords	Mahoney (FL)
Burton (IN)	Gilchrest	Maloney (NY)
Butterfield	Gillibrand	Manzullo
Buyer	Gillmor	Marchant
Calvert	Gohmert	Matheson
Camp (MI)	Gonzalez	Matsui
Cannon	Gordon	McCarthy (CA)
Capito	Granger	McCarthy (NY)
Cardoza	Graves	McCaull (TX)
Carnahan	Green, Al	McColum (MN)
Carney	Green, Gene	McCotter
Carson	Grijalva	McCrery
Carter	Hall (NY)	McDermott
Castle	Hall (TX)	McGovern
Castor	Hare	McHenry
Chabot	Hastert	McHugh
Chandler	Hastings (FL)	McIntyre
Christensen	Hastings (WA)	McKeon
Clarke	Hayes	McMorris
Clay	Hensarling	Rodgers
Cleaver	Herger	McNerney
Clyburn	Herseth Sandlin	McNulty
Coble	Higgins	Meehan
Cohen	Hill	Meek (FL)
Cole (OK)	Hinche	Meeks (NY)
Conaway	Hinojosa	Melancon
Conyers	Hirono	Mica
Cooper	Hobson	Michaud
Costa	Hodes	Miller (FL)
Costello	Hoekstra	Miller (MI)
Courtney	Holden	Miller (NC)
Cramer	Holt	Mitchell
Crenshaw	Honda	Mollohan
Crowley	Hoyer	Moore (KS)
Cubin	Hulshof	Moore (WI)
Cuellar	Hunter	Moran (KS)
Culberson	Inglis (SC)	Moran (VA)
Cummings	Inslee	Murphy (CT)
Davis (AL)	Israel	Murphy, Patrick
Davis (CA)	Issa	Murphy, Tim
Davis (IL)	Jackson (IL)	Musgrave
Davis (KY)		Myrick
Davis, Lincoln		Nadler

Napolitano	Rothman	Taylor
Neal (MA)	Roybal-Allard	Terry
Neugebauer	Ruppersberger	Thompson (CA)
Norton	Rush	Thompson (MS)
Nunes	Ryan (OH)	Tiahrt
Oberstar	Ryan (WI)	Tiberi
Obey	Salazar	Tierney
Oliver	Sali	Towns
Ortiz	Sánchez, Linda	Turner
Pallone	T.	Udall (CO)
Pascarell	Sanchez, Loretta	Udall (NM)
Pastor	Sarbanes	Upton
Payne	Saxton	Van Hollen
Pearce	Schakowsky	Velázquez
Pence	Schiff	Visclosky
Perlmutter	Schmidt	Walberg
Peterson (MN)	Schwartz	Walden (OR)
Peterson (PA)	Scott (GA)	Walsh (NY)
Petri	Scott (VA)	Walz (MN)
Pitts	Sensenbrenner	Wamp
Platts	Serrano	Wasserman
Pomeroy	Sestak	Schultz
Porter	Shea-Porter	Waters
Price (NC)	Sherman	Watson
Pryce (OH)	Shuler	Watt
Putnam	Shuster	Waxman
Radanovich	Simpson	Weiner
Rahall	Sires	Welch (VT)
Ramstad	Skelton	Weldon (FL)
Rangel	Slaughter	Weller
Regula	Smith (NE)	Wexler
Rehberg	Smith (NJ)	Whitfield
Reichert	Smith (WA)	Wicker
Renzi	Snyder	Wilson (NM)
Reyes	Solis	Wilson (OH)
Reynolds	Space	Wilson (SC)
Rodriguez	Spratt	Wolf
Rogers (AL)	Stark	Woolsey
Rogers (KY)	Stearns	Wu
Rogers (MI)	Sullivan	Wynn
Ros-Lehtinen	Sutton	Yarmuth
Roskam	Tanner	Young (AK)
Ross	Tauscher	Young (FL)

NOES—45

Barrow	Gingrey	Markey
Bartlett (MD)	Goode	Marshall
Barton (TX)	Goodlatte	Miller, Gary
Blackburn	Harman	Murtha
Brown-Waite,	Heller	Poe
Ginny	Johnson (GA)	Price (GA)
Campbell (CA)	Jones (NC)	Rohrabacher
Cantor	Jordan	Royce
Capps	Kanjorski	Shadegg
Capuano	Keller	Shays
Davis, David	King (NY)	Shimkus
Deal (GA)	LaHood	Smith (TX)
Duncan	Lamborn	Souder
Feeney	Lewis (KY)	Tancred
Franks (AZ)	Lungren, Daniel	Thornberry
Garrett (NJ)	E.	

NOT VOTING—13

Ackerman	Faleomavaega	Sessions
Andrews	Gutierrez	Stupak
Bonner	Miller, George	Westmoreland
Brady (TX)	Paul	
Davis, Jo Ann	Pickering	

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE ACTING CHAIRMAN

The Acting CHAIRMAN (during the vote). Members are advised that there are 30 seconds remaining on this vote.

□ 1054

Messrs. POE, GOODLATTE, PRICE of Georgia, DEAL of Georgia, GINGREY and JORDAN of Ohio changed their vote from “aye” to “no.”

Ms. BORDALLO, Mr. JACKSON of Illinois, Ms. NORTON, Ms. LORETTA SANCHEZ of California, Messrs. CUMMINGS, SESTAK, LEWIS of Georgia, and CLYBURN, Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin, Mrs. LOWEY and Mrs. CHRISTENSEN changed their vote from “no” to “aye.”

So the amendment was agreed to.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE ACTING CHAIRMAN

The Acting CHAIRMAN. The Chair reminds Members that we have now completed 18 of the 24 amendments in this series. Six amendments remain.

Each vote will be a 2-minute vote with a 30-second warning. Members are encouraged to remain on the floor.

AMENDMENT OFFERED BY MR. TANCREDO

The Acting CHAIRMAN. The unfinished business is the demand for a recorded vote on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Colorado (Mr. TANCREDO) on which further proceedings were postponed and on which the noes prevailed by voice vote.

The Clerk will redesignate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

Amendment offered by Mr. TANCREDO:

At the end of the bill (before the short title), insert the following:

SEC. ____ None of the funds made available by this Act may be used to administer any extension of designation made under section 244(b) of the Immigration and Nationality Act with respect to Honduras, or Nicaragua.

RECORDED VOTE

The Acting CHAIRMAN. A recorded vote has been demanded.

A recorded vote was ordered.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. This will be a 2-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—ayes 76, noes 347, not voting 14, as follows:

[Roll No. 484]

AYES—76

Aderholt	Goode	Miller, Gary
Altmire	Gordon	Murphy, Patrick
Baker	Graves	Musgrave
Barrett (SC)	Hall (TX)	Myrick
Barrow	Harman	Neugebauer
Bartlett (MD)	Hastings (WA)	Platts
Billbray	Hayes	Poe
Blackburn	Heller	Price (GA)
Brown-Waite,	Hensarling	Reichert
Ginny	Hookey	Reynolds
Burgess	Hunter	Rogers (AL)
Burton (IN)	Johnson, Sam	Royce
Buyer	Jones (NC)	Schmidt
Chabot	Jordan	Shuler
Costello	King (IA)	Shuster
Culberson	Kingston	Smith (NE)
Davis (KY)	Kuhl (NY)	Smith (TX)
Deal (GA)	Lamborn	Spratt
DeFazio	Lewis (KY)	Stearns
Donnelly	Linder	Sullivan
Duncan	Marchant	Tancred
Ellsworth	Marshall	Wamp
Fox	McCaul (TX)	Watt
Gallegly	McHenry	Weldon (FL)
Gingrey	McIntyre	Young (FL)
Gohmert	Melancon	

NOES—347

Abercrombie	Boswell	Clarke
Akin	Boucher	Clay
Alexander	Boustany	Cleaver
Allen	Boyd (FL)	Clyburn
Arcuri	Boyda (KS)	Coble
Baca	Brady (PA)	Cohen
Bachmann	Braley (IA)	Cole (OK)
Bachus	Brown (SC)	Conaway
Baird	Brown, Corrine	Conyers
Baldwin	Buchanan	Cooper
Barton (TX)	Butterfield	Costa
Bean	Calvert	Courtney
Becerra	Camp (MI)	Cramer
Berkley	Campbell (CA)	Crenshaw
Berman	Cannon	Crowley
Berry	Cantor	Cubin
Biggert	Capito	Cuellar
Bilirakis	Capps	Cummings
Bishop (GA)	Capuano	Davis (AL)
Bishop (NY)	Cardoza	Davis (CA)
Bishop (UT)	Carnahan	Davis (IL)
Blumenauer	Carney	Davis, David
Blunt	Carson	Davis, Lincoln
Boehner	Carter	Davis, Tom
Bono	Castle	DeGette
Boozman	Castor	DeLauro
Bordallo	Chandler	Dent
Boren	Christensen	

Diaz-Balart, L.
Diaz-Balart, M.
Dicks
Dingell
Doggett
Doolittle
Doyle
Drake
Dreier
Edwards
Ehlers
Ellison
Emanuel
Emerson
Engel
English (PA)
Eshoo
Etheridge
Everett
Fallin
Farr
Fattah
Feeney
Ferguson
Filner
Flake
Forbes
Fortenberry
Fortuño
Fossella
Frank (MA)
Franks (AZ)
Frelinghuysen
Garrett (NJ)
Gerlach
Giffords
Gilchrest
Gillibrand
Gillmor
Gonzalez
Grijalva
Hall (NY)
Hare
Hastert
Hastings (FL)
Herseth Sandlin
Higgins
Hill
Hinchey
Hinojosa
Hirono
Hobson
Hodes
Hoekstra
Holden
Holt
Honda
Hoyer
Hulshof
Inglis (SC)
Inslie
Israel
Issa
Jackson (IL)
Jackson-Lee
(TX)
Jefferson
Jindal
Johnson (GA)
Johnson (IL)
Johnson, E. B.
Jones (OH)
Kagen
Kanjorski
Kaptur
Keller
Kennedy
Kildee
Kilpatrick
Kind
King (NY)
Kirk
Klein (FL)
Kline (MN)
Knollenberg
Kucinich

LaHood
Lampson
Langevin
Lantos
Larsen (WA)
Larson (CT)
Latham
LaTourette
Lee
Levin
Lewis (CA)
Lewis (GA)
Lipinski
LoBiondo
Loeb sack
Lofgren, Zoe
Lowey
Lucas
Lungren, Daniel
E.
Lynch
Mack
Mahoney (FL)
Maloney (NY)
Manzullo
Markey
Matheson
Matsui
McCarthy (CA)
McCarthy (NY)
McCollum (MN)
McCotter
McCrery
McDermott
McGovern
McHugh
McKeon
McMorris
Rodgers
McNerney
McNulty
Meehan
Meek (FL)
Meeks (NY)
Mica
Michaud
Miller (FL)
Miller (MI)
Miller (NC)
Mitchell
Mollohan
Moore (KS)
Moore (WI)
Moran (KS)
Moran (VA)
Murphy (CT)
Murphy, Tim
Murtha
Nadler
Napolitano
Neal (MA)
Norton
Nunes
Oberstar
Obey
Oliver
Ortiz
Pallone
Pascarell
Payne
Pearce
Pence
Perlmutter
Peterson (MN)
Peterson (PA)
Pitts
Pomeroy
Porter
Price (NC)
Pryce (OH)
Putnam
Radanovich
Rahall
Ramstad
Rangel
Wynn
Yarmuth
Young (AK)

NOT VOTING—14

Ackerman
Andrews
Bonner
Brady (TX)
Davis, Jo Ann

Faleomavaega
Gutierrez
Herger
Miller, George
Paul

Reyes
Rodriguez
Rogers (KY)
Rogers (MI)
Rohrabacher
Ros-Lehtinen
Roskam
Ross
Rothman
Roybal-Allard
Ruppersberger
Rush
Ryan (OH)
Ryan (WI)
Salazar
Sali
Sánchez, Linda
T.
Sanchez, Loretta
Sarbanes
Saxton
Schakowsky
Schiff
Schwartz
Scott (GA)
Scott (VA)
Sensenbrenner
Serrano
Sestak
Shadegg
Shays
Shea-Porter
Sherman
Shimkus
Simpson
Sires
Skelton
Slaughter
Smith (NJ)
Smith (WA)
Snyder
Solis
Souder
Space
Stark
Sutton
Tanner
Tauscher
Taylor
Terry
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)
Thornberry
Tiahrt
Tiberi
Tierney
Towns
Turner
Udall (CO)
Udall (NM)
Upton
Van Hollen
Velázquez
Visclosky
Walberg
Walden (OR)
Walsh (NY)
Walz (MN)
Wasserman
Schultz
Waters
Watson
Waxman
Weiner
Welch (VT)
Weller
Wexler
Whitfield
Wicker
Wilson (NM)
Wilson (OH)
Wilson (SC)
Wolf
Woolsey
Wu
Brown-Waite,
Ginny
Buchanan
Burgess
Burton (IN)
Buyer
Calvert
Camp (MI)
Campbell (CA)
Cantor
Capito

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE ACTING CHAIRMAN

The Acting CHAIRMAN (during the vote). Members are advised that there are 30 seconds remaining on this vote.

□ 1059

So the amendment was rejected.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE ACTING CHAIRMAN

The Acting CHAIRMAN. The Chair announces five votes in this series are remaining and implores Members to remain on the floor. These will be 2-minute votes.

AMENDMENT NO. 7 OFFERED BY MR. TANCREDO

The Acting CHAIRMAN. The unfinished business is the demand for a recorded vote on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Colorado (Mr. TANCREDO) on which further proceedings were postponed and on which the noes prevailed by voice vote.

The Clerk will redesignate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

Amendment No. 7 offered by Mr. TANCREDO:

At the end of the bill (before the short title), insert the following:

SEC. 544. None of the funds made available in this Act may be used in contravention of section 642(a) of the Illegal Immigration Reform and Immigrant Responsibility Act of 1996 (8 U.S.C. 1373(a)).

RECORDED VOTE

The Acting CHAIRMAN. A recorded vote has been demanded.

A recorded vote was ordered.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. This will be a 2-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—ayes 234, noes 189, not voting 14, as follows:

[Roll No. 485]

AYES—234

Aderholt
Akin
Alexander
Altmire
Bachmann
Bachus
Baird
Baker
Barrett (SC)
Barrow
Bartlett (MD)
Barton (TX)
Biggart
Bilbray
Bilirakis
Bishop (UT)
Blackburn
Blunt
Boehner
Bono
Boozman
Boren
Boswell
Boustany
Boyda (KS)
Braley (IA)
Brown (SC)
Brown-Waite,
Ginny
Buchanan
Burgess
Burton (IN)
Buyer
Calvert
Camp (MI)
Campbell (CA)
Cantor
Capito

Carter
Chabot
Coble
Cohen
Cole (OK)
Conaway
Cooper
Cramer
Crenshaw
Cubin
Cuellar
Culberson
Davis (KY)
Davis, David
Davis, Lincoln
Davis, Tom
Deal (GA)
DeFazio
Dent
Donnelly
Doolittle
Drake
Dreier
Duncan
Ehlers
Ellsworth
Emerson
English (PA)
Everett
Fallin
Feeney
Ferguson
Flake
Forbes
Fortenberry
Fossella
Foxy
Franks (AZ)

King (IA)
King (NY)
Kingston
Kirk
Klein (FL)
Kline (MN)
Knollenberg
Kuhl (NY)
LaHood
Lamborn
Lampson
Latham
LaTourette
Lewis (CA)
Lewis (KY)
Linder
Lipinski
LoBiondo
Lucas
Lungren, Daniel
E.
Lynch
Mack
Mahoney (FL)
Manzullo
Marchant
Marshall
Matheson
McCarthy (CA)
McCaul (TX)
McCotter
McCrery
McHenry
McHugh
McIntyre
McKeon
McMorris
Rodgers
Melancon
Mica
Miller (FL)

Miller (MI)
Miller, Gary
Mitchell
Moran (KS)
Murphy, Patrick
Murphy, Tim
Musgrave
Myrick
Neugebauer
Norton
Nunes
Obey
Pearce
Pence
Perlmutter
Peterson (MN)
Peterson (PA)
Petri
Pitts
Platts
Poe
Pomeroy
Porter
Price (GA)
Pryce (OH)
Putnam
Radanovich
Ramstad
Regula
Rehberg
Renzi
Rogers (AL)
Rogers (KY)
Rogers (MI)
Rohrabacher
Roskam
Ross
Royce
Ryan (WI)
Sali
Saxton

NOES—189

Abercrombie
Allen
Arcuri
Baca
Baldwin
Bean
Becerra
Berkley
Berman
Berry
Bishop (GA)
Bishop (NY)
Blumenauer
Bordallo
Boucher
Boyd (FL)
Brady (PA)
Brown, Corrine
Butterfield
Cannon
Capps
Capuano
Cardoza
Carnahan
Carney
Carson
Castle
Cubitt
Chandler
Christensen
Clarke
Clay
Cleaver
Clyburn
Conyers
Costa
Costello
Courtney
Crowley
Cummings
Davis (AL)
Davis (CA)
Davis (IL)
DeGette
Delahunt
DeLauro
Diaz-Balart, L.
Diaz-Balart, M.
Dicks
Dingell
Doggett
Doyle
Edwards
Ellison
Emanuel
Engel

Eshoo
Etheridge
Farr
Fattah
Filner
Fortuño
Frank (MA)
Gonzalez
Green, Al
Green, Gene
Grijalva
Hall (NY)
Hare
Harman
Hastings (FL)
Herger
Herseth Sandlin
Higgins
Hinchey
Hinojosa
Hirono
Hodes
Holt
Honda
Hoyer
Inslie
Israel
Jackson (IL)
Jackson-Lee
(TX)
Jefferson
Johnson (GA)
Johnson, E. B.
Jones (OH)
Kagen
Kanjorski
Kaptur
Kennedy
Kilpatrick
Kucinich
Langevin
Lantos
Larsen (WA)
Larson (CT)
Lee
Levin
Lewis (GA)
Loeb sack
Lofgren, Zoe
Lowey
Maloney (NY)
Markey
Matsui
McCarthy (NY)
McCollum (MN)
McDermott

McGovern
McNerney
McNulty
Meehan
Meek (FL)
Meeks (NY)
Michaud
Miller (NC)
Mollohan
Moore (KS)
Moore (WI)
Moran (VA)
Murphy (CT)
Murtha
Nadler
Napolitano
Neal (MA)
Oberstar
Oliver
Ortiz
Pallone
Pascarell
Pastor
Payne
Price (NC)
Rahall
Rangel
Reichert
Reyes
Reynolds
Rodriguez
Ros-Lehtinen
Rothman
Roybal-Allard
Ruppersberger
Rush
Ryan (OH)
Salazar
Sánchez, Linda
T.
Sanchez, Loretta
Sarbanes
Schakowsky
Schiff
Schwartz
Scott (GA)
Scott (VA)
Serrano
Shea-Porter
Sherman
Sires
Slaughter
Snyder
Solis
Stark
Sutton

Tauscher Velázquez Waxman
Thompson (CA) Visclosky Weiner
Thompson (MS) Walz (MN) Welch (VT)
Tierney Wasserman Wexler
Towns Schultz Wilson (OH)
Udall (CO) Waters Woolsey
Udall (NM) Watson Wu
Van Hollen Watt Wynn

NOT VOTING—14

Ackerman Faleomavaega Sessions
Andrews Gutierrez Stupak
Bonner Miller, George Tancredo
Brady (TX) Paul Westmoreland
Davis, Jo Ann Pickering

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE ACTING CHAIRMAN

The Acting CHAIRMAN (during the vote). Members are advised there are 30 seconds remaining in this vote.

□ 1104

Mr. COSTELLO changed his vote from “aye” to “no.”

Ms. NORTON changed her vote from “no” to “aye.”

So the amendment was agreed to.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

Stated for:

Mr. HERGER. Mr. Chairman, on rollcall No. 485, I inadvertently voted “no,” when I meant to vote “aye.”

AMENDMENT NO. 18 OFFERED BY MR. ROYCE

The Acting CHAIRMAN. The unfinished business is the demand for a recorded vote on the amendment offered by the gentleman from California (Mr. ROYCE) on which further proceedings were postponed and on which the noes prevailed by voice vote.

The Clerk will redesignate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

Amendment No. 18 offered by Mr. ROYCE:

At the end of the bill (before the short title), insert the following:

SEC. _____. None of the funds made available in this Act for customs and border protection fencing, infrastructure, and technology may be used for anything but at least two layers of reinforced fencing and roads, pursuant to section 102 of Public Law 104-208.

RECORDED VOTE

The Acting CHAIRMAN. A recorded vote has been demanded.

A recorded vote was ordered.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. This will be a 2-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—ayes 149, noes 272, not voting 16, as follows:

[Roll No. 486]

AYES—149

Aderholt Burton (IN) Donnelly
Akin Buyer Doolittle
Bachmann Calvert Drake
Baker Camp (MI) Duncan
Barrett (SC) Campbell (CA) Ellsworth
Barrow Cannon English (PA)
Bartlett (MD) Cantor Everett
Bean Capito Fallin
Billray Capuano Feeney
Bishop (UT) Chabot Forbes
Blackburn Coble Foxx
Blunt Cole (OK) Franks (AZ)
Boehner Cramer Frelinghuysen
Boozman Crenshaw Gallegly
Boren Cubin Garrett (NJ)
Boustany Culberson Gillmor
Brown-Waite, Davis (KY) Gingrey
Ginny Davis, David Gohmert
Buchanan Davis, Tom Goode
Burgess Deal (GA) Goodlatte

Gordon Matheson Royce
Graves McCarthy (CA) Ryan (OH)
Hall (TX) McHenry Ryan (WI)
Hayes McIntyre Sali
Heller McKeon Schmidt
Herger Melancon Sensenbrenner
Herseth Sandlin Mica Shadegg
Hoekstra Miller (FL) Shimkus
Hulshof Miller, Gary Shuler
Hunter Moran (KS) Shuster
Jindal Murphy, Patrick Smith (NE)
Johnson (IL) Murphy, Tim Smith (TX)
Johnson, Sam Musgrave Souder
Jones (NC) Nunes Space
Jordan Pence Stearns
Keller Petri Sullivan
King (IA) Pitts Terry
King (NY) Poe Tiahrt
Kingston Porter Tiberi
Kline (MN) Price (GA) Turner
LaHood Pryce (OH) Walberg
Lamborn Putnam Walden (OR)
Latham Ramstad Walsh (NY)
Lewis (KY) Regula Weldon (FL)
Linder Rehberg Weller
Lucas Renzi Whitfield
Lynch Reynolds Wilson (SC)
Manzullo Rogers (AL) Wolf
Marchant Rohrabacher Young (AK)
Marshall Roskam Young (FL)

NOES—272

Abercrombie Doggett Kucinich
Alexander Doyle Kuhl (NY)
Allen Lampson
Altmire Edwards Langevin
Arcuri Ehlers Lantos
Baca Ellison Larsen (WA)
Bachus Emanuel Larson (CT)
Baird Emerson LaTourette
Baldwin Engel Lee
Barton (TX) Eshoo Levin
Becerra Etheridge Lewis (CA)
Berkley Farr Lewis (GA)
Berman Fattah Lipinski
Berry Ferguson LoBiondo
Biggart Filner Loebsock
Bilirakis Flake Lofgren, Zoe
Bishop (GA) Fortenberry Lowey
Bishop (NY) Fortuño Lungren, Daniel
Blumenauer Fossella E.
Bono Frank (MA) Mack
Bordallo Gerlach Mahoney (FL)
Boswell Giffords Maloney (NY)
Boucher Gilchrist Markey
Boyd (FL) Gillibrand Matsui
Boyda (KS) Gonzalez McCarthy (NY)
Brady (PA) Granger McCaul (TX)
Braley (IA) Green, Al McCollum (MN)
Brown (SC) Green, Gene McCotter
Brown, Corrine Grijalva McCrery
Butterfield Hall (NY) McDermott
Capps Hare McGovern
Cardoza Harman McGugh
Carnahan Hastert McMorris
Carney Hastings (FL) Rodgers
Carson Hastings (WA) McNeerney
Carter Higgins McNulty
Castle Hill Meehan
Castor Hinchey Meek (FL)
Chandler Hinojosa Meeks (NY)
Christensen Hirono Michaud
Clarke Hobson Miller (MI)
Clay Hodes Miller (NC)
Cleaver Holden Mitchell
Clyburn Holt Mollohan
Cohen Honda Moore (KS)
Conaway Hooley Moore (WI)
Conyers Hoyer Moran (VA)
Cooper Inglis (SC) Murphy (CT)
Costa Inslee Murtha
Costello Israel Myrick
Courtney Issa Nadler
Crowley Jackson (IL) Napolitano
Cuellar Jackson-Lee Neal (MA)
Cummings (TX) Neugebauer
Davis (AL) Jefferson Norton
Davis (CA) Johnson (GA) Oberstar
Davis (IL) Johnson, E. B. Obey
Davis, Lincoln Kagen Olver
DeFazio Kanjorski Ortiz
DeGette Kaptur Pallone
Delahunt Kennedy Pascrell
DeLauro Kildee Pastor
Dent Kilpatrick Payne
Diaz-Balart, L. Kind Pearce
Diaz-Balart, M. Kirk Perlmutter
Dicks Klein (FL) Peterson (MN)
Dingell Knollenberg Peterson (PA)

Platts Scott (GA) Udall (CO)
Pomeroy Scott (VA) Udall (NM)
Price (NC) Serrano Upton
Radanovich Sestak Van Hollen
Rahall Shays Velázquez
Rangel Shea-Porter Visclosky
Reichert Sherman Walz (MN)
Reyes Simpson Wamp
Rodriguez Sires Wasserman
Rogers (KY) Skelton Schultz
Rogers (MI) Slaughter Waters
Ros-Lehtinen Smith (NJ) Watson
Ross Smith (WA) Watt
Rothman Snyder Waxman
Roybal-Allard Solis Weiner
Ruppersberger Spratt Welch (VT)
Rush Stark Wexler
Salazar Sutton Wicker
Sanchez, Linda Tanner Wilson (NM)
T. Tauscher
Sanchez, Loretta Taylor Wilson (OH)
Sarbanes Thompson (CA) Woolsey
Saxton Thompson (MS) Wu
Schakowsky Thornberry Wynn
Schiff Tierney Yarmuth
Schwartz Towns

NOT VOTING—16

Ackerman Gutierrez Sessions
Andrews Hensarling Stupak
Bonner Jones (OH) Tancredo
Brady (TX) Miller, George
Davis, Jo Ann Paul
Faleomavaega Pickering Westmoreland

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE ACTING CHAIRMAN

The Acting CHAIRMAN (during the vote). Members are advised there are 30 seconds left in this vote.

□ 1107

So the amendment was rejected.

The result of the vote was announced as above record.

AMENDMENT OFFERED BY MR. FORBES

The Acting CHAIRMAN. The unfinished business is the demand for a recorded vote on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. FORBES) on which further proceedings were postponed and on which the noes prevailed by voice vote.

The Clerk will redesignate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

Amendment offered by Mr. FORBES:

At the end of the bill (before the short title), insert the following:

SEC. 544. None of the funds made available in this Act may be used to extend the designation of any foreign state under section 244(b)(3)(C) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1254a(b)(3)(C)).

RECORDED VOTE

The Acting CHAIRMAN. A recorded vote has been demanded.

A recorded vote was ordered.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. This will be a 2-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—ayes 123, noes 298, not voting 16, as follows:

[Roll No. 487]

AYES—123

Aderholt Blunt Cantor
Akin Boehner Carter
Bachmann Boozman Chabot
Baker Boustany Coble
Barrett (SC) Brown (SC) Conaway
Barrow Brown-Waite, Culberson
Bartlett (MD) Ginny Davis (KY)
Barton (TX) Buchanan Deal (GA)
Biggart Burgess Dent
Billray Burton (IN) Donnelly
Bilirakis Buyer Doolittle
Bishop (UT) Camp (MI) Drake
Blackburn Campbell (CA) Duncan

Ellsworth	Jordan	Price (GA)	Obey	Ryan (OH)	Thompson (CA)	Buchanan	Graves	Moran (KS)
Emerson	Keller	Rehberg	Olver	Salazar	Thompson (MS)	Burgess	Hall (TX)	Musgrave
Everett	King (IA)	Rogers (AL)	Ortiz	Sali	Tierney	Burton (IN)	Hastings (WA)	Neugebauer
Feeney	Kingston	Rohrabacher	Pallone	Sánchez, Linda	Towns	Buyer	Hayes	Nunes
Forbes	Lamborn	Roskam	Pascarell	T.	Turner	Calvert	Heller	Pearce
Fortenberry	Lewis (KY)	Royce	Pastor	Sanchez, Loretta	Udall (CO)	Camp (MI)	Hensarling	Pence
Fox	Linder	Ryan (WI)	Payne	Sarbanes	Udall (NM)	Campbell (CA)	Herger	Peterson (PA)
Franks (AZ)	LoBiondo	Saxton	Perlmutter	Schakowsky	Van Hollen	Cannon	Hobson	Pitts
Gallegly	Manzullo	Schmidt	Peterson (MN)	Schiff	Velazquez	Cantor	Hoekstra	Platts
Gerlach	Marshall	Sensenbrenner	Peterson (PA)	Schwartz	Visclosky	Carter	Hulshof	Poe
Gilchrest	McCaul (TX)	Shadeegg	Pomeroy	Scott (GA)	Walberg	Chabot	Hunter	Price (GA)
Gohmert	McCotter	Shuster	Porter	Scott (VA)	Walden (OR)	Coble	Inglis (SC)	Pryce (OH)
Goode	McHenry	Smith (NE)	Price (NC)	Serrano	Walsh (NY)	Cole (OK)	Issa	Putnam
Goodlatte	McIntyre	Smith (TX)	Pryce (OH)	Sestak	Walz (MN)	Conaway	Jindal	Radanovich
Gordon	Mica	Souder	Putnam	Shays	Wasserman	Crenshaw	Johnson, Sam	Ramstad
Granger	Miller (FL)	Space	Radanovich	Shea-Porter	Schultz	Cubin	Jones (NC)	Reynolds
Graves	Miller, Gary	Stearns	Rahall	Sherman	Waters	Culberson	Jordan	Rogers (AL)
Hall (TX)	Moran (KS)	Sullivan	Ramstad	Shimkus	Watson	Davis (KY)	Keller	Rogers (KY)
Hayes	Murphy, Patrick	Terry	Rangel	Shuler	Waxman	Davis, David	King (IA)	Rogers (MI)
Heller	Murphy, Tim	Thornberry	Regula	Simpson	Weiner	Davis, Tom	Kingston	Rohrabacher
Hensarling	Musgrave	Tiahrt	Reichert	Sires	Welch (VT)	Deal (GA)	Kline (MN)	Royce
Herger	Myrick	Tiberi	Renzi	Skelton	Weldon (FL)	Dent	Knollenberg	Sali
Hoekstra	Neugebauer	Upton	Reyes	Slaughter	Weller	Doolittle	Lamborn	Sensenbrenner
Hulshof	Pearce	Wamp	Reynolds	Smith (NJ)	Wexler	Drake	Latham	Shadeegg
Hunter	Pence	Wilson (SC)	Rodriguez	Smith (WA)	Whitfield	Dreier	Lewis (CA)	Shuster
Jindal	Petri	Young (AK)	Rogers (KY)	Snyder	Wicker	Duncan	Lewis (KY)	Simpson
Johnson (IL)	Pitts	Young (FL)	Rogers (MI)	Solis	Wilson (NM)	Ehlers	Linder	Smith (NE)
Johnson, Sam	Platts		Ros-Lehtinen	Spratt	Wilson (OH)	Everett	Lucas	Smith (TX)
Jones (NC)	Poe		Ross	Stark	Wolf	Fallin	Lungren, Daniel	Souder
			Rothman	Sutton	Woolsey	Feeney	E.	Stearns
			Roybal-Allard	Tanner	Wu	Flake	Mack	Sullivan
			Ruppersberger	Tauscher	Wynn	Forbes	Manzullo	Thornberry
			Rush	Taylor	Yarmuth	Fortenberry	Marchant	Tiahrt

NOES—298

Abercrombie	Diaz-Balart, L.	Kilpatrick
Alexander	Diaz-Balart, M.	Kind
Allen	Dicks	King (NY)
Altmire	Dingell	Kirk
Arcuri	Doggett	Klein (FL)
Baca	Doyle	Kline (MN)
Bachus	Dreier	Knollenberg
Baird	Edwards	Kucinich
Baldwin	Ehlers	Kuhl (NY)
Bean	Ellison	LaHood
Becerra	Emanuel	Lampson
Berkley	Engel	Langevin
Berman	English (PA)	Lantos
Berry	Eshoo	Larsen (WA)
Bishop (GA)	Etheridge	Larson (CT)
Bishop (NY)	Fallin	Latham
Blumenauer	Farr	LaTourette
Bono	Fattah	Lee
Bordallo	Ferguson	Levin
Boren	Filner	Lewis (CA)
Boswell	Flake	Lewis (GA)
Boucher	Fortuño	Lipinski
Boyd (FL)	Fossella	Loeb sack
Boyd (KS)	Frank (MA)	Lofgren, Zoe
Brady (PA)	Frelinghuysen	Lowe
Braley (IA)	Garrett (NJ)	Lucas
Brown, Corrine	Giffords	Lungren, Daniel
Butterfield	Gillibrand	E.
Calvert	Gillmor	Lynch
Cannon	Gingrey	Mack
Capito	Gonzalez	Mahoney (FL)
Capps	Green, Al	Maloney (NY)
Capuano	Green, Gene	Marchant
Cardoza	Grijalva	Markey
Carnahan	Hall (NY)	Matheson
Carney	Hare	Matsui
Carson	Harman	McCarthy (CA)
Castle	Hastert	McCarthy (NY)
Castor	Hastings (FL)	McCollum (MN)
Chandler	Hastings (WA)	McCrery
Christensen	Herseht Sandlin	McDermott
Clarke	Higgins	McGovern
Clay	Hill	McHugh
Cleaver	Hinche	McKeon
Clyburn	Hinojosa	McMorris
Cohen	Hirono	Rodgers
Cole (OK)	Hobson	McNerney
Conyers	Hodes	McNulty
Cooper	Holden	Meehan
Costa	Holt	Meek (FL)
Costello	Honda	Meeks (NY)
Courtney	Hooley	Melancon
Cramer	Hoyer	Michaud
Crenshaw	Inglis (SC)	Miller (MI)
Crowley	Inslee	Miller (NC)
Cubin	Israel	Mitchell
Cuellar	Issa	Mollohan
Cummings	Jackson (IL)	Moore (KS)
Davis (AL)	Jackson-Lee	Moore (WI)
Davis (CA)	(TX)	Moran (VA)
Davis (IL)	Jefferson	Murphy (CT)
Davis, David	Johnson, E. B.	Murtha
Davis, Lincoln	Jones (OH)	Nadler
Davis, Tom		Napolitano
DeFazio	Kanjorski	Neal (MA)
DeGette	Kaptur	Norton
Delahunt	Kennedy	Nunes
DeLauro	Kildee	Oberstar

NOT VOTING—16

Ackerman	Gutierrez	Stupak
Andrews	Johnson (GA)	Tancredo
Bonner	Miller, George	Watt
Brady (TX)	Paul	Westmoreland
Davis, Jo Ann	Pickering	
Faleomavaega	Sessions	

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE ACTING CHAIRMAN

The Acting CHAIRMAN (during the vote). Members are advised there are 30 seconds remaining in this vote.

□ 1111

So the amendment was rejected.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

AMENDMENT OFFERED BY MR. ROGERS OF KENTUCKY

The Acting CHAIRMAN. The unfinished business is the demand for a recorded vote on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Kentucky (Mr. ROGERS) on which further proceedings were postponed and on which the noes prevailed by voice vote.

The Clerk will redesignate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

Amendment offered by Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky:

At the end of the bill (before the short title), insert the following:

Sec. 544. None of the funds made available in this act may be used to implement section 536 of this Act.

RECORDED VOTE

The Acting CHAIRMAN. A recorded vote has been demanded.

A recorded vote was ordered.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. This will be a 2-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—ayes 145, noes 277, not voting 15, as follows:

[Roll No. 488]

AYES—145

Aderholt	Bartlett (MD)	Blunt
Akin	Barton (TX)	Boehner
Bachmann	Billbray	Bono
Bachus	Bilirakis	Boozman
Baker	Bishop (UT)	Boustany
Barrett (SC)	Blackburn	Brown (SC)

Abercrombie	Cummings	Holden
Alexander	Davis (AL)	Holt
Allen	Davis (CA)	Honda
Altmire	Davis (IL)	Hooley
Arcuri	Davis, Lincoln	Hoyer
Baca	DeFazio	Inslee
Baird	DeGette	Israel
Baldwin	Delahunt	Jackson (IL)
Barrow	DeLauro	Jackson-Lee
Bean	Diaz-Balart, L.	(TX)
Becerra	Diaz-Balart, M.	Jefferson
Berkley	Dicks	Johnson (GA)
Berman	Dingell	Johnson (IL)
Berry	Doggett	Johnson, E. B.
Biggart	Donnelly	Jones (OH)
Bishop (GA)	Doyle	Kagen
Bishop (NY)	Edwards	Kanjorski
Blumenauer	Ellison	Kaptur
Bordallo	Ellsworth	Kennedy
Boren	Emanuel	Kildee
Boswell	Emerson	Kilpatrick
Boucher	Engel	Kind
Boyd (FL)	English (PA)	King (NY)
Boyd (KS)	Eshoo	Kirk
Brady (PA)	Etheridge	Klein (FL)
Braley (IA)	Farr	Kucinich
Brown, Corrine	Fattah	Kuhl (NY)
Brown-Waite,	Ferguson	LaHood
Ginny	Filner	Lampson
Butterfield	Fortuño	Langevin
Capito	Fossella	Lantos
Capps	Frank (MA)	Larsen (WA)
Capuano	Gerlach	Larson (CT)
Cardoza	Giffords	LaTourette
Carnahan	Gilchrest	Lee
Carney	Gillibrand	Levin
Carson	Gillmor	Lewis (GA)
Castle	Gonzalez	Lipinski
Castor	Gordon	LoBiondo
Chandler	Green, Al	Loeb sack
Christensen	Green, Gene	Lofgren, Zoe
Clarke	Grijalva	Lowe
Clay	Hall (NY)	Lynch
Cleaver	Hare	Mahoney (FL)
Clyburn	Harman	Maloney (NY)
Cohen	Hastert	Markey
Conyers	Hastings (FL)	Marshall
Cooper	Herseht Sandlin	Matheson
Costa	Higgins	Matsui
Costello	Hill	McCarthy (NY)
Courtney	Hinche	McCollum (MN)
Cramer	Hinojosa	McCotter
Crowley	Hirono	McDermott
Cuellar	Hodes	McGovern

McHugh	Regula	Solis
McIntyre	Rehberg	Space
McNerney	Reichert	Spratt
McNulty	Renzi	Stark
Meehan	Reyes	Sutton
Meek (FL)	Rodriguez	Tanner
Meeks (NY)	Ros-Lehtinen	Tauscher
Melancon	Roskam	Taylor
Michaud	Ross	Terry
Miller (MI)	Rothman	Thompson (CA)
Miller (NC)	Roybal-Allard	Thompson (MS)
Mitchell	Ruppersberger	Tierney
Mollohan	Rush	Towns
Moore (KS)	Ryan (OH)	Turner
Moore (WI)	Ryan (WI)	Udall (CO)
Moran (VA)	Salazar	Udall (NM)
Murphy (CT)	Sánchez, Linda T.	Upton
Murphy, Patrick	Sánchez, Loretta	Van Hollen
Murphy, Tim	Sarbanes	Velázquez
Murtha	Saxton	Visclosky
Nadler	Schakowsky	Walden (OR)
Napolitano	Schiff	Walsh (NY)
Neal (MA)	Schmitt	Walz (MN)
Norton	Schwartz	Wasserman
Oberstar	Scott (GA)	Schultz
Obey	Scott (VA)	Waters
Olver	Serrano	Watson
Ortiz	Sestak	Watt
Pallone	Shays	Waxman
Pascarell	Shea-Porter	Weiner
Pastor	Sherman	Welch (VT)
Payne	Shimkus	Weller
Perlmutter	Shuler	Wexler
Peterson (MN)	Sires	Wilson (OH)
Petri	Skelton	Woolsey
Pomeroy	Slaughter	Wu
Porter	Smith (NJ)	Wynn
Price (NC)	Smith (WA)	Yarmuth
Rahall	Snyder	Young (AK)
Rangel		

NOT VOTING—15

Ackerman	Faleomavaega	Pickering
Andrews	Gutierrez	Sessions
Bonner	Miller, George	Stupak
Brady (TX)	Myrick	Tancredo
Davis, Jo Ann	Paul	Westmoreland

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE ACTING CHAIRMAN

The Acting CHAIRMAN (during the vote). Members are advised 30 seconds are remaining in this vote.

□ 1114

So the amendment was rejected.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

Stated for:

Mrs. MYRICK. Mr. Chairman, I was unable to participate in the following vote. If I had been present, I would have voted as follows: Rollcall vote 488, on agreeing to the Rogers (KY) amendment—H.R. 2638, Department of Homeland Security Appropriations Act, 2008—I would have voted “aye.”

AMENDMENT NO. 1 OFFERED BY MR. ROGERS OF KENTUCKY

The Acting CHAIRMAN. The unfinished business is the demand for a recorded vote on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Kentucky (Mr. ROGERS) on which further proceedings were postponed and on which the noes prevailed by voice vote.

The Clerk will redesignate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

Amendment No. 1 offered by Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky:

At the end of the bill (before the short title), insert the following:

SEC. _____. Each amount appropriated or otherwise made available by this Act that is not required to be appropriated or otherwise made available by a provision of law is hereby reduced by 5.7 percent.

RECORDED VOTE

The Acting CHAIRMAN. A recorded vote has been demanded.

A recorded vote was ordered.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. This will be a 2-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—ayes 178, noes 243, not voting 16, as follows:

[Roll No. 489]

AYES—178

Aderholt	Foxx	Moran (KS)
Akin	Franks (AZ)	Murphy, Tim
Alexander	Frelinghuysen	Musgrave
Bachmann	Gallely	Myrick
Bachus	Garrett (NJ)	Neugebauer
Baker	Gerlach	Nunes
Barrett (SC)	Gillmor	Pearce
Bartlett (MD)	Gingrey	Pence
Barton (TX)	Gohmert	Peterson (PA)
Biggert	Goode	Petri
Bilbray	Goodlatte	Pitts
Bilirakis	Granger	Platts
Bishop (UT)	Graves	Poe
Blackburn	Hall (TX)	Price (GA)
Blunt	Hastert	Pryce (OH)
Boehner	Hastings (WA)	Putnam
Bono	Hayes	Radanovich
Boozman	Heller	Ramstad
Boustany	Hensarling	Regula
Brown (SC)	Herger	Rehberg
Brown-Waite,	Hobson	Renzi
Ginny	Hoekstra	Reynolds
Buchanan	Hulshof	Rogers (AL)
Burgess	Hunter	Rogers (KY)
Burton (IN)	Inglis (SC)	Rogers (MI)
Buyer	Issa	Rohrabacher
Calvert	Jindal	Ros-Lehtinen
Camp (MI)	Johnson, Sam	Roskam
Campbell (CA)	Jones (NC)	Royce
Cannon	Jordan	Ryan (WI)
Cantor	Keller	Sali
Capito	King (IA)	Schmidt
Carter	Kingston	Sensenbrenner
Castle	Kline (MN)	Shadegg
Chabot	Knollenberg	Shimkus
Coble	Kuhl (NY)	Shuster
Cole (OK)	LaHood	Simpson
Conaway	Lamborn	Smith (NE)
Crenshaw	Latham	Smith (TX)
Cubin	LaTourette	Souder
Culberson	Lewis (CA)	Stearns
Davis (KY)	Lewis (KY)	Sullivan
Davis, David	Linder	Taylor
Davis, Tom	Lucas	Terry
Deal (GA)	Lungren, Daniel E.	Thornberry
Diaz-Balart, L.	Mack	Tiahrt
Diaz-Balart, M.	Manzullo	Tiberi
Doolittle	Marchant	Upton
Drake	McCarthy (CA)	Walberg
Dreier	McCaul (TX)	Walden (OR)
Duncan	McCotter	Wamp
Ehlers	McCrery	Weldon (FL)
Emerson	McHenry	Whitfield
English (PA)	McKeon	Wicker
Everett	McMorris	Wilson (NM)
Fallin	Rodgers	Wilson (SC)
Feeney	Mica	Wolf
Flake	Miller (FL)	Young (AK)
Forbes	Miller (MI)	Young (FL)
Fortenberry	Miller, Gary	
Fortuño		

NOES—243

Abercrombie	Butterfield	Davis (CA)
Allen	Capps	Davis (IL)
Altmire	Capuano	Davis, Lincoln
Arcuri	Cardoza	DeFazio
Baca	Carnahan	DeGette
Baird	Carney	Delahunt
Baldwin	Carson	DeLauro
Barrow	Castor	Dent
Bean	Chandler	Dicks
Becerra	Christensen	Dingell
Berkley	Clarke	Doggett
Berman	Clay	Donnelly
Berry	Cleaver	Doyle
Bishop (GA)	Clyburn	Edwards
Bishop (NY)	Cohen	Ellison
Blumenauer	Conyers	Ellsworth
Bordallo	Cooper	Emanuel
Boren	Costa	Engel
Boswell	Costello	Eshoo
Boucher	Courtney	Etheridge
Boyd (FL)	Cramer	Farr
Boyda (KS)	Crowley	Fattah
Brady (PA)	Cuellar	Ferguson
Braley (IA)	Cummings	Filner
Brown, Corrine	Davis (AL)	Fossella

Frank (MA)	Lynch	Salazar
Giffords	Mahoney (FL)	Sánchez, Linda T.
Gilchrest	Maloney (NY)	Sanchez, Loretta
Gillibrand	Markey	Sarbanes
Gonzalez	Marshall	Saxton
Gordon	Matheson	Schakowsky
Green, Al	Matsui	Schiff
Green, Gene	McCarthy (NY)	Schwartz
Grijalva	McCollum (MN)	Scott (GA)
Hall (NY)	McDermott	Scott (VA)
Hare	McGovern	Serrano
Harman	McHugh	Sestak
Hastings (FL)	McIntyre	Shays
Herseth Sandlin	McNerney	Shea-Porter
Higgins	McNulty	Sherman
Hill	Meehan	Shuler
Hinchey	Meek (FL)	Sires
Hinojosa	Meeks (NY)	Skelton
Hirono	Melancon	Slaughter
Hodes	Michaud	Smith (NJ)
Holden	Miller (NC)	Smith (WA)
Holt	Mitchell	Snyder
Honda	Mollohan	Solis
Hooley	Moore (KS)	Space
Hoyer	Moore (WI)	Spratt
Inslée	Moran (VA)	Stark
Israel	Murphy (CT)	Sutton
Jackson (IL)	Murphy, Patrick	Tanner
Jackson-Lee	Murtha	Tauscher
(TX)	Nadler	Thompson (CA)
Jefferson	Napolitano	Thompson (MS)
Johnson (GA)	Neal (MA)	Tierney
Johnson (IL)	Norton	Towns
Johnson, E. B.	Oberstar	Turner
Jones (OH)	Obey	Udall (CO)
Kagen	Olver	Udall (NM)
Kaptur	Ortiz	Van Hollen
Kennedy	Pallone	Velázquez
Kildee	Pascarell	Visclosky
Kilpatrick	Pastor	Walsh (NY)
Kind	Payne	Walz (MN)
King (NY)	Perlmutter	Wasserman
Klein (FL)	Peterson (MN)	Schultz
Kucinich	Pomeroy	Waters
Lampson	Porter	Watson
Langevin	Price (NC)	Watt
Lantos	Rahall	Waxman
Larsen (WA)	Rangel	Weiner
Larson (CT)	Reichert	Welch (VT)
Lee	Reyes	Weller
Levin	Rodriguez	Wexler
Lewis (GA)	Ross	Wilson (OH)
Lipinski	Rothman	Woolsey
LoBiondo	Roybal-Allard	Wu
Loeb	Ruppersberger	Wynn
Lofgren, Zoe	Rush	Yarmuth
Lowey	Ryan (OH)	

NOT VOTING—16

Ackerman	Gutierrez	Sessions
Andrews	Kanjorski	Stupak
Bonner	Kirk	Tancredo
Brady (TX)	Miller, George	Westmoreland
Davis, Jo Ann	Paul	
Faleomavaega	Pickering	

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE ACTING CHAIRMAN

The Acting CHAIRMAN (during the vote). Thirty seconds are remaining on this vote.

□ 1119

Mr. TURNER changed his vote from “aye to “no.”

Mr. ISSA changed his vote from “no” to “aye.”

So the amendment was rejected.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

Stated for:

Mr. KIRK. Mr. Chairman, on rollcall No. 489, I was inadvertently detained. Had I been present, I would have voted “aye.”

AMENDMENT OFFERED BY MR. PRICE OF NORTH CAROLINA

Mr. PRICE of North Carolina. Mr. Chairman, I offer an amendment.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. The Clerk will designate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

Amendment offered by Mr. PRICE of North Carolina:

Page 74, after line 18, insert the following new section:

SEC. ____ The amount otherwise provided by this Act for "Firefighter Assistance Grants" is hereby increased by \$5,058,000, which shall be available to carry out section 34 of the Federal Fire Prevention and Control Act of 1974.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. Pursuant to the order of the House of Thursday, June 14, the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. PRICE) and a Member opposed each will control 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from North Carolina.

Mr. PRICE of North Carolina. Mr. Chairman, I have a simple and straightforward amendment that I am offering as a result of the long debate we've had, the many amendments we've adopted, and where we stand at the end of this.

The amendment would allocate \$5 million, a modest adjustment, to FEMA's Firefighter Assistance Grants, specifically, the Staffing for Adequate Fire and Emergency Response program, the SAFER program.

As I'm sure most Members know, the SAFER program helps local fire departments to increase the number of frontline firefighters. The goal is for fire departments to increase their staffing and deployment capabilities, and ultimately to obtain 24-hour staffing.

We, in this bill, have done our very best to more adequately fund the fire grants and the SAFER program. But the need is great, and we believe this is a prudent and useful and productive place to invest these additional funds.

Mr. Chairman, this amendment has been cleared on both sides of the aisle. I ask our colleagues to approve this critical funding for our firefighters.

Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky. Will the gentleman yield?

Mr. PRICE of North Carolina. I am happy to yield.

Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky. We join you in the amendment.

Mr. PRICE of North Carolina. I thank the gentleman.

Mr. Chairman, I yield back the balance of my time.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. PRICE).

The amendment was agreed to.

AMENDMENT OFFERED BY MR. OBEY

Mr. OBEY. Mr. Chairman, I offer an amendment.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. The Clerk will designate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

Amendment offered by Mr. OBEY:

At the end of the bill, before the short title, add the following new section:

SEC. 544. None of the funds in this or any other Act may be used to pay more than one dollar for a legislative earmark as defined in clause 9 of Rule XXI.

POINT OF ORDER

Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky. Mr. Chairman, I make a point of order against the amendment because it proposes to

change existing law. It constitutes legislation in an appropriations bill, and therefore violates clause 2 of rule XXI.

I ask for a ruling of the Chair.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. Does any Member wish to be heard on the point of order? If not, the chair will rule.

As stated on page 135 of House Practice, a limitation must apply solely to the money of the appropriation under consideration and may not be applied to money appropriated in other acts. The amendment offered by the gentleman from Wisconsin explicitly addresses funds in other acts. The amendment therefore constitutes legislation, and the point of order is sustained.

The Clerk will read.

The Clerk read as follows:

This Act may be cited as the "Department of Homeland Security Appropriations Act, 2008".

Mrs. CHRISTENSEN. Mr. Chairman, I would like to commend Chairman OBEY and Ranking Member LEWIS for their leadership in bringing the Department of Homeland Security Appropriations bill to the House floor. I would also like to commend Chairman THOMPSON and Ranking Member KING for their unyielding efforts to ensure that the Department of Homeland Security receives adequate funding to carry out its mission—to help prevent, protect against and respond to acts of terrorism on U.S. soil.

I am pleased that for fiscal year 2007–2008, the Committee recommends \$2,065,387,000 above the amount requested for discretionary resources. On February 5th, President Bush delivered the fiscal year 2008 budget request for the Department of Homeland Security and it failed to address our Nation's most pressing security needs. It left gaps in our Nation's border, port, mass transit, rail, aviation, cyber and critical infrastructure security. Essentially, the administration's proposed budget failed to aggressively promote the necessity of protection, prevention, and preparation.

With the recently foiled JFK terrorist plot and the issues of coordination surrounding the TB case, it is clearly evident that we need to put more resources into the DHS. While we passed supplemental funding for the war in Iraq, protecting our Nation's security must remain a priority. Homeland terrorism is still a prevalent threat.

H.R. 2683 makes key investments in areas such as first responder and port security by appropriating \$1.97 billion above the President's request. These grants were funded at \$4.92 billion in 2004 and have been cut every year since. I am also pleased that the bill appropriation includes \$50 million above the administration's request and \$797 million above 2007. This will allow DHS to strengthen our Nation's borders beyond our Mexican border and include areas in the Caribbean such as my district—the U.S. Virgin Islands.

H.R. 2683 also addresses lessons learned from Hurricanes Rita and Katrina. This includes increase funding for improvements to FEMA's management operation called for after Katrina. The bill also provides \$200 million above 2007 for assistance to State and local governments.

Overall, this appropriation bill reflects numerous hours of oversight hearings on every aspect of security and terrorism issues affecting our Nation's borders and infrastructure.

H.R. 2683 demonstrates to our Nation this Congress is serious about protecting our citizens and I urge its passage.

Once again, I would like to thank the Committee on Appropriations Subcommittee on Homeland Security and the Homeland Security for their hard work to increase funding for the Department of Homeland Security.

Mr. SIREN. Mr. Chairman, it was clear on September 11 that one of New Jersey's critical security weaknesses was the protection of chemical security plants and facilities. New Jersey did not wait around years for the Department of Homeland Security to enact strong chemical security regulations. Our State took the initiative to protect its citizens by enacting strong chemical security laws. This House is taking action to make sure that my State will be able to keep our strong standards. The fiscal year 2008 Homeland Security appropriations bill will prohibit the Department of Homeland Security from overturning New Jersey's chemical security regulations.

I represent part of the area known as the "most dangerous 2 miles," right near Port Elizabeth in New Jersey. Securing the infrastructure along this corridor is not only important for the safety of my constituents and the residents of New Jersey, but also for the entire Nation. That is why it is so important that the Homeland Security appropriations bill contains \$400 million to protect critical port facilities and infrastructure.

Mr. Chairman, the Homeland Security appropriations bill has my support because it is vital to the security of my constituents, the State of New Jersey, and the entire Nation. Thank you.

Mr. MACK. Mr. Chairman, I rise today to share a few thoughts on the Homeland Security bill and, more specifically, the Davis-Bacon expansion that is contained within this legislation. This is an important bill for our Nation—one that we all should be able to support; unfortunately, instead of solely funding our national security needs, the Majority wants to use this bill as an opportunity to fund union security.

I view the issue like this: You are either for the taxpayer, or you are against the taxpayer; you are either for small business, or you are against it; you are either for free markets, or you are against them; you are either for open competition and freedom, or you are against it. With this bill, it is pretty certain where the Majority comes down on those very basic questions. In the end, the American taxpayer will be the loser if these provisions are allowed to be signed into law.

With the poison pill of the Davis-Bacon provisions, this becomes unacceptable legislation. Our friends across the aisle—in their rush to pass giveaways to unions—are saddling the American people with needlessly higher costs. Put simply, this policy is a throwback to failed Depression-era economic policy.

Since this Congress convened, Mr. Speaker, Democrats have been trying to claim the mantle of fiscal responsibility. But how can they realistically claim that title with this sort of policy? In reality, they are quickly showing themselves, once again, to be the party of anti-competition and bad policy. Instead of inserting bad law into a critical bill, Democrats should be leading the way by removing Davis-Bacon from all Federal law.

Countless studies have shown that action would truly save the taxpayers' money. In fact,

if we were to repeal Davis-Bacon, the Congressional Budget Office has said we would save at least \$10.5 billion over 10 years for taxpayers. A separate study showed that number to be as high as \$2 billion per year. The vast majority of our Nation's workforce is non-unionized and our policies should reflect that. We need to be working to ensure there is fair and open competition for government grants—not rewards for Big Labor.

All this leads to the question: Why wouldn't we remove this law from the books? With the amendment to strike Davis-Bacon from this bill, which I am proud to cosponsor with several of my colleagues, we are seeking to take a first step in making sure this law doesn't expand any further.

So, Mr. Chairman, I stand up in support of this amendment, in support of good fiscal policy, and in support of the taxpayers. Expanding this law will only once again throw more costs on the backs of hard-working Americans. You cannot say you are for fiscal responsibility and free markets while at the same time promoting policies that lead to the exact opposite. Try as they might, the Majority cannot have it both ways. The American people deserve better.

Mr. ADERHOLT. Mr. Chairman, I would like to reference two positive programs within this Homeland Security Appropriations bill that are making a difference in the 4th District of Alabama.

For several years, Congress has included funding in this bill for local Assistance to Firefighters Grants. The purpose of this grant program is to award grants directly to fire departments and nonaffiliated emergency medical service organizations. These awards aim to enhance our first responder's ability to protect the health and safety of the public, as well as that of first-responder personnel, with respect to fire-related hazards. Using a competitive process overseen by fire service subject matter experts, DHS awards grants to applicants whose requests best address the priorities of the program.

This is especially important in the district that I represent in North Alabama.

As a rural area, North Alabama is home to many volunteer fire departments and rescue squads. These people work hard to protect their communities and provide first rate care of their neighbors. Unfortunately in too many instances they are forced to do so with older equipment that doesn't provide the proper safety or performance that they need to do their jobs. This problem isn't for lack of care; it's in large measure due to a lack of funding. The Fire Grant program has proven to be a tremendous asset that has helped meet the needs of the fire departments and EMS organizations that I represent.

I am pleased that this important program has received increased funding this year. That means that more organizations will be able to participate and upgrade equipment and training that they might otherwise have been unable to do. As a result they will be better prepared to save lives, protect homes and businesses and continue to serve their communities in a meaningful way.

I would also like to take this opportunity to thank the Chairman and Ranking Member for their support of another important program within Homeland Security, textile transshipment enforcement. As a district with a heavy textile manufacturing presence, I am

very aware of the problems faced by this important industry.

Today foreign manufacturers are utilizing unnatural and unfair business practices that are hurting U.S. textile manufacturers. One such scheme involves the transshipment of goods to evade duty or quotas on textiles being brought into the country. Over the last several years, U.S. Customs and Border Patrol, CBP, and Immigration and Customs Enforcement have been very successful in stopping many of these illegal textile transshipments.

In 2006, Customs announced that they seized more than \$100 million in wearing apparel and textile goods that were misrepresented, smuggled or illegally transshipped in an effort to circumvent U.S. textile trade laws and regulations. Of that amount, \$3 million worth of socks were confiscated. This program is making a difference and giving U.S. textile manufacturers an opportunity to compete. I fully support this funding and am pleased that this Congress continues to recognize its importance.

Mrs. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Chairman, I rise today in support of H.R. 2638, the FY 2008 Homeland Security Appropriations Act. I want to commend Chairman PRICE and Ranking Member ROGERS for their leadership in getting the bill to the Floor today.

H.R. 2638 provides critical funding to protect the homeland in case of disasters, both man-made and natural. As a representative for New York City, terrorist target number one, I am especially pleased to see the increased funding in several important areas. The bill increases funding by \$30 million over last year's amount to \$800 million for the Urban Area Security Initiative grants. While I am pleased to see this increase in funding, I strongly believe that these grants should receive even more funding so that urban areas that are high-risk targets for terrorist attacks are better prepared. The bill also includes increased funding for port security grants and rail and transit grants, both of which are vitally important to New York City.

This bill addresses the critical needs in aviation security by including funding to double the amount of cargo inspected on passenger airplanes. After going through security checks to get on a plane, passengers should feel secure that the cargo stowed underneath their feet has been checked as well. This funding is an important step in making that happen.

I also want to note the language in the bill that aims to reduce the number of sole-source contracts given out by the Department of Homeland Security. The bill requires, except in emergencies and when certain distribution mechanisms already exist, a full and open competitive process for the obligation of all grant and contract funds. As a longtime proponent of fair and open contracting, this language is critical to ensuring greater accountability and transparency in spending taxpayers' dollars.

H.R. 2638 is a good, comprehensive bill that will improve our security and our preparedness should another disaster strike.

I urge my colleagues to support this bill.

Mr. HIGGINS. Mr. Chairman, I rise to congratulate this House on passing a homeland security appropriations bill that will protect the economies of Northern Border communities as well as protect us from terrorism.

The homeland security bill contained two rebukes of the way the Department of State and

Department of Homeland Security are proceeding toward requiring passports for travel at land-border crossings between the United States and Canada. My friend Congresswoman SLAUGHTER, Chair of the Rules Committee, authored a provision that will delay implementation of the passport requirement until a pilot program has been completed to determine if an enhanced driver's license may offer the same security as a passport with a far lesser impact to border communities.

And my Northern Border colleagues Congressman LATOURETTE and Congressman KUCINICH won overwhelming approval for their amendment to delay implementation of the passport requirement until June 2009.

These legislative provisions reflect the concern that my Northern Border colleagues and I have been expressing for some time: that requiring a passport for travel at Northern Border land crossings is unworkable, unnecessary, and destructive to our communities.

I represent the City of Buffalo and surrounding communities in Western New York. We are an area that is plagued with a vulnerable economy, and cutting off commerce with our Canadian neighbors would be a knockout blow to our community. Southern Ontario is the third-fastest growing economy in North America, and its population is expected to increase by 3 million over the next two decades. Western New York needs direct and efficient access to that market, as we depend on our Canadian neighbors to support our cultural, retail, and educational institutions.

Last year my office received twenty requests for assistance to expedite passport applications. In the first 6 months of 2007 my office has received over 500. It is clear that as we move toward the Administration's stated goal of January 2008 for implementation of the passport requirement, the system is overwhelmed. If the Administration proceeds on its current course, our residents will not have access to the documents they need and cross-border travel will come to a standstill. This is unacceptable.

It is my hope and expectation that the clear rejection of the passport requirement this House adopted today will send a message to the White House, Department of State and Department of Homeland Security that we expect them to reconsider and revise this ill-conceived and dangerous proposal.

Mr. ORTIZ. Mr. Chairman, I rise in support of the FY08 Homeland Security Appropriations bill—the House's first all-encompassing look at the security of our Nation. But I strongly oppose the proposition that a border wall will protect this Nation, and I ask my colleagues to consider what a wall along the Southwest border will do.

During this debate my friends in the minority have said they are focused on the funding levels of this bill . . . saying they are too high and wasteful. Here's what is wasteful: according to Customs and Border Protection, every mile of a wall will cost at least \$3 million dollars to construct. That doesn't include any funding needed to buy private lands or maintain the fence.

In this 21st Century, we have the technology to adequately protect our borders through a virtual fence without dividing communities, adversely impacting our economy, giving up water rights, denying private property rights for landowners on the border, or changing international boundaries without benefit of international treaties.

I am grateful that the Committee incorporated the language in the bill to include the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service as one of the federal agencies with which DHS must coordinate before spending money to build a wall. And I have received a commitment to include the International Boundary and Water Commission to the list of federal agencies DHS must coordinate with, as the bill moves through conference. I thank the Committee for accepting the language in the bill requiring the DHS Secretary to consult with local communities, and to seek their advice before spending money on the wall. That's hardly enough, but that puts a little lipstick on the pig.

Rather than spend over \$3 million dollars a mile, we should be directing the Department of Homeland Security to utilize technology like ground sensors, unmanned aircraft, vehicle barriers, cameras and human surveillance through Border Patrol.

The technology of a virtual wall saves the taxpayers \$2 million dollars a mile . . . will be

more reliable . . . and actually give the Border Patrol the time and resources they need to detain illegal immigrants or potential terrorists. Virtual technology is proven; this week the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey announced it would deploy a virtual fence to protect JFK, Newark Liberty International and LaGuardia airports. Much of the technology they are deploying is either currently being used or developed by CBP.

We need to be smarter about our border security . . . rather than expect a physical wall to singlehandedly protect our country. Unless you live along the border, you do not understand the uniqueness of border communities. Constructing a fence along the southwest border is going to have a devastating economic impact in our border towns.

Much of the area along the border is growing rapidly with more and more Fortune 500 companies moving business to South Texas. What message does constructing a wall send to these companies? Twenty years ago this

week, on June 12, 1987—President Ronald Reagan said of the Berlin Wall that scarred Europe: "Mr. Gorbachev, tear down this wall."

We are better than Soviet Europe . . . and an antiquated structure along our borders will not protect our Nation. Protecting the border is of the utmost importance to me, and all Americans.

Nearly every single Border Patrol agent, who has confided in me, is certain a wall is not the solution. They would rather receive funding for additional manpower, technology and tactical infrastructure, such as vehicle barriers, to protect our border.

I urge my colleagues to save taxpayers money, oppose the handful of amendments before us that throw good money after bad in building a wall that will not protect this great Nation.

Mr. PRICE of North Carolina. Mr. Chairman, I submit the following for the RECORD.

Homeland Security Appropriations Act - FY 2008 (H.R. 2638)
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2007 Enacted	FY 2008 Request	Bill	Bill vs. Enacted	Bill vs. Request
TITLE I - DEPARTMENTAL MANAGEMENT AND OPERATIONS					
Departmental Operations					
Office of the Secretary and Executive Management:					
Immediate Office of the Secretary.....	2,540	2,650	2,540	---	-110
Immediate Office of the Deputy Secretary.....	1,185	1,222	1,185	---	-37
Chief of Staff.....	2,560	2,639	2,639	+79	---
Office of Counternarcotics Enforcement.....	2,360	3,155	3,000	+640	-155
Executive Secretary.....	4,450	5,127	4,588	+138	-539
Office of Policy.....	29,305	35,300	32,500	+3,195	-2,800
Secure Border Initiative Office.....	4,500	4,500	4,500	---	---
Office of Public Affairs.....	6,000	7,686	6,300	+300	-1,386
Office of Legislative and Intergovernmental Affairs.....	5,449	5,618	4,618	-831	-1,000
Office of General Counsel.....	12,759	15,155	14,000	+1,241	-1,155
Office of Civil Rights and Liberties.....	13,000	13,722	15,000	+2,000	+1,278
Citizenship and Immigration Services Ombudsman....	5,927	6,054	6,060	+133	+6
Privacy Officer.....	4,435	5,111	6,000	+1,565	+889
Supplemental Appropriations - P.L. 110-28 Rescission (sec. 6404).....	-1,201	---	---	+1,201	---
Transfer to Aviation Security (P.L. 110-5, sec. 21101).....	(-300)	---	---	(+300)	---
Total, Office of the Secretary and Executive Management (including transfers).....	92,969	107,939	102,930	+9,961	-5,009
Appropriations.....	(94,470)	(107,939)	(102,930)	(+8,460)	(-5,009)
Rescissions.....	(-1,201)	---	---	(+1,201)	---
(transfer out).....	(-300)	---	---	(+300)	---
Office of the Under Secretary for Management:					
Under Secretary for Management.....	1,870	2,012	2,012	+142	---
Office of Security.....	52,640	53,990	52,990	+350	-1,000
Office of the Chief Procurement Officer.....	16,895	28,495	27,055	+10,160	-1,440
Office of the Chief Human Capital Officer:					
Salaries and expenses.....	8,811	10,278	10,278	+1,467	---
MAX - HR System.....	25,000	15,000	3,000	-22,000	-12,000
Subtotal, Office of the Chief Human Capital Officer.....	33,811	25,278	13,278	-20,533	-12,000
Office of the Chief Administrative Officer:					
Salaries and expenses.....	40,218	42,575	41,430	+1,212	-1,145
Nebraska Avenue Complex (NAC).....	8,206	6,000	---	-8,206	-6,000
St. Elizabeths Project.....	---	120,000	---	---	-120,000
DHS headquarters projects.....	---	---	101,000	+101,000	+101,000
Subtotal, Office of the Chief Administrative Officer.....	48,424	168,575	142,430	+94,006	-26,145
Supplemental Appropriations - P.L. 110-28:					
Appropriation (sec. 6404).....	900	---	---	-900	---
Rescission (sec. 6404).....	-513	---	---	+513	---
Transfer to Aviation Security (P.L. 110-5, sec. 21101).....	(-5,000)	---	---	(+5,000)	---
Total, Office of the Under Secretary for Management (including transfers).....	149,027	278,350	237,765	+88,738	-40,585
Appropriations.....	(154,540)	(278,350)	(237,765)	(+83,225)	(-40,585)
Rescissions.....	(-513)	---	---	(+513)	---
(transfer out).....	(-5,000)	---	---	(+5,000)	---
Office of the Chief Financial Officer.....					
Supplemental Appropriations - P.L. 110-28 Rescission (sec. 6404).....	-45	---	---	+45	---
Subtotal, Office of the Chief Financial Officer.....	25,955	32,800	32,000	+6,045	-800

Homeland Security Appropriations Act - FY 2008 (H.R. 2638)
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2007 Enacted	FY 2008 Request	Bill	Bill vs. Enacted	Bill vs. Request
Office of the Chief Information Officer:					
Salaries and expenses.....	79,521	82,400	79,921	+400	-2,479
Information technology activities.....	61,013	56,200	56,200	-4,813	---
Security activities.....	89,387	89,400	89,400	+13	---
Wireless program.....	86,438	---	---	-86,438	---
Homeland Secure Data Network (HSDN).....	32,654	33,100	33,100	+446	---
Supplemental Appropriations - P.L. 110-28 Rescission (sec. 6404).....	-462	---	---	+462	---
Subtotal, Office of the Chief Information Officer.....					
Officer.....	348,551	261,100	258,621	-89,930	-2,479
Appropriations.....	(349,013)	(261,100)	(258,621)	(-90,392)	(-2,479)
Rescissions.....	(-462)	---	---	(+462)	---
Analysis and Operations.....					
Supplemental Appropriations - P.L. 110-28 Emergency appropriations.....	299,663	314,681	291,619	-8,044	-23,062
Emergency appropriations.....	8,000	---	---	-8,000	---
Subtotal, Analysis and Operations.....					
	307,663	314,681	291,619	-16,044	-23,062
=====					
Total, Departmental Operations.....	924,165	994,870	922,935	-1,230	-71,935
Office of the Federal Coordinator for Gulf Coast					
Rebuilding.....	3,000	3,000	3,000	---	---
Office of Inspector General					
Operating expenses.....	85,185	99,111	99,111	+13,926	---
(transfer from Disaster Relief).....	(13,500)	---	---	(-13,500)	---
Supplemental Appropriations - P.L. 110-28 Transfer from Disaster Relief (emergency).....	(4,000)	---	---	(-4,000)	---
Operating expenses (including transfers).....					
Appropriations.....	102,685	99,111	99,111	-3,574	---
by transfer (including emergencies).....	(85,185)	(99,111)	(99,111)	(+13,926)	---
	(17,500)	---	---	(-17,500)	---
=====					
Total, title I, Departmental Management and Operations (including transfers).....	1,029,850	1,096,981	1,025,046	-4,804	-71,935
Appropriations.....	(1,011,871)	(1,096,981)	(1,025,046)	(+13,175)	(-71,935)
Emergency appropriations.....	(8,000)	---	---	(-8,000)	---
Rescissions.....	(-2,221)	---	---	(+2,221)	---
by transfer.....	(13,500)	---	---	(-13,500)	---
transfer out.....	(-5,300)	---	---	(+5,300)	---
by transfer emergency.....	(4,000)	---	---	(-4,000)	---
=====					
TITLE II - SECURITY, ENFORCEMENT, AND INVESTIGATIONS					
Customs and Border Protection					
Salaries and expenses:					
Headquarters, Management, and Administration:					
Management and administration, border security inspections and trade facilitation.....	658,943	673,981	673,981	+15,038	---
Management and administration, border security and control between ports of entry.....	589,446	603,426	603,426	+13,980	---
Subtotal, Headquarters, Mgt. & Admin.....					
	1,248,389	1,277,407	1,277,407	+29,018	---
Border security inspections and trade facilitation:					
Inspections, trade, and travel facilitation at ports of entry.....	1,326,665	1,610,202	1,654,685	+328,020	+44,483
Harbor maintenance fee collection (trust fund)	3,026	3,026	3,093	+67	+67
Container security initiative.....	139,312	156,130	156,130	+16,818	---
Other international programs.....	8,701	8,871	8,871	+170	---

Homeland Security Appropriations Act - FY 2008 (H.R. 2638)
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2007 Enacted	FY 2008 Request	Bill	Bill vs. Enacted	Bill vs. Request
Customs-Trade Partnership Against Terrorism (C-TPAT).....	54,730	55,560	61,010	+6,280	+5,450
Free and Secure Trade (FAST) NEXUS/SENTRI.....	11,243	11,243	11,243	---	---
Inspection and detection technology investments.....	141,317	135,979	135,979	-5,338	---
Emergency appropriations.....	100,000	---	---	-100,000	---
Subtotal.....	241,317	135,979	135,979	-105,338	---
Automated targeting systems.....	27,298	27,580	27,580	+282	---
National Targeting Center.....	23,635	23,950	23,950	+315	---
Other technology investments, including I/T training.....	24,564	24,813	24,813	+249	---
Subtotal, Border security inspections and trade facilitation.....	1,860,491	2,057,354	2,107,354	+246,863	+50,000
Border security and control between ports of entry:					
Border security and control.....	2,239,586	2,984,443	2,984,443	+744,857	---
SBINET training.....	37,924	52,789	52,789	+14,865	---
Subtotal, Border security and control between ports of entry.....	2,277,510	3,037,232	3,037,232	+759,722	---
Air and Marine Personnel Compensation and Benefits Supplemental Appropriations - P.L. 110-28	175,796	207,740	207,740	+31,944	---
Emergency appropriations.....	75,000	---	---	-75,000	---
Transfer to FLETC (emergency).....	(-3,000)	---	---	(+3,000)	---
Subtotal, Salaries and expenses (including transfers).....	5,634,186	6,579,733	6,629,733	+995,547	+50,000
Appropriations.....	(5,459,160)	(6,576,707)	(6,626,640)	(+1,167,480)	(+49,933)
Emergency appropriations.....	(175,000)	---	---	(-175,000)	---
Transfer out emergency.....	(-3,000)	---	---	(+3,000)	---
Trust fund.....	(3,026)	(3,026)	(3,093)	(+67)	(+67)
Automation modernization:					
Automated commercial environment/International Trade Data System (ITDS).....	316,800	316,969	316,969	+169	---
Automated commercial system and current operations and processing support.....	134,640	159,640	159,640	+25,000	---
Subtotal, Automation modernization.....	451,440	476,609	476,609	+25,169	---
Border security fencing, infrastructure, and technology (BSFIT).....	28,365	---	---	-28,365	---
Emergency appropriations.....	1,159,200	---	---	-1,159,200	---
Development and deployment.....	---	936,000	936,000	+936,000	---
Program management.....	---	64,000	64,000	+64,000	---
Subtotal, BSFIT.....	1,187,565	1,000,000	1,000,000	-187,565	---
Appropriations.....	(28,365)	(1,000,000)	(1,000,000)	(+971,635)	---
Emergency appropriations.....	(1,159,200)	---	---	(-1,159,200)	---
Air and Marine Interdiction, Operations, Maintenance, and Procurement:					
Operations and maintenance.....	236,454	353,954	353,954	+117,500	---
Procurement.....	133,733	123,333	123,333	-10,400	---
Emergency appropriations.....	232,000	---	---	-232,000	---
Subtotal.....	365,733	123,333	123,333	-242,400	---
Supplemental Appropriations - P.L. 110-28					
Emergency appropriations.....	75,000	---	---	-75,000	---
Subtotal, Air and marine interdiction, operations, maintenance, and procurement.....	677,187	477,287	477,287	-199,900	---

Homeland Security Appropriations Act - FY 2008 (H.R. 2638)
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2007 Enacted	FY 2008 Request	Bill	Bill vs. Enacted	Bill vs. Request
Appropriations.....	(370,187)	(477,287)	(477,287)	(+107,100)	---
Emergency appropriations.....	(307,000)	---	---	(-307,000)	---
Construction:					
Construction.....	122,978	249,663	249,663	+126,685	---
Construction (Border Patrol) (emergency).....	110,000	---	---	-110,000	---
Subtotal, Construction.....	232,978	249,663	249,663	+16,685	---
Total, Direct appropriations for Customs and and Border Protection.....	8,186,356	8,783,292	8,833,292	+646,936	+50,000
Fee accounts:					
Immigration inspection user fee.....	(529,300)	(535,291)	(535,291)	(+5,991)	---
Immigration enforcement fines.....	(1,724)	(3,440)	(3,440)	(+1,716)	---
Land border inspection fee.....	(28,071)	(30,121)	(30,121)	(+2,050)	---
COBRA passenger inspection fee.....	(387,804)	(392,180)	(392,180)	(+4,376)	---
APHIS inspection fee.....	(214,287)	(299,622)	(299,622)	(+85,335)	---
Puerto Rico collections.....	(97,815)	(117,214)	(117,214)	(+19,399)	---
Small airport user fees.....	(6,230)	(7,057)	(7,057)	(+827)	---
Subtotal, fee accounts.....	(1,265,231)	(1,384,925)	(1,384,925)	(+119,694)	---
Total, Customs and Border Protection.....	(9,448,587)	(10,168,217)	(10,218,217)	(+769,630)	(+50,000)
Appropriations.....	(6,435,156)	(8,783,292)	(8,833,292)	(+2,398,136)	(+50,000)
Emergency appropriations.....	(1,751,200)	---	---	(-1,751,200)	---
Transfer out (emergency).....	(-3,000)	---	---	(+3,000)	---
(Fee accounts).....	(1,265,231)	(1,384,925)	(1,384,925)	(+119,694)	---
Immigration and Customs Enforcement					
Salaries and expenses:					
Headquarters Management and Administration (non-Detention and Removal Operations):					
Personnel compensation and benefits, service and other costs.....	140,000	162,137	162,137	+22,137	---
Headquarters managed IT investment.....	134,013	152,306	136,606	+2,593	-15,700
Subtotal, Headquarters management and administration.....	274,013	314,443	298,743	+24,730	-15,700
Legal proceedings.....	187,353	207,850	208,350	+20,997	+500
Investigations:					
Domestic.....	1,285,229	1,372,328	1,360,828	+75,599	-11,500
International.....	104,681	108,074	108,074	+3,393	---
Subtotal, Investigations.....	1,389,910	1,480,402	1,468,902	+78,992	-11,500
Intelligence.....	51,379	52,146	52,146	+767	---
Detention and removal operations:					
Custody Operations.....	1,381,767	1,459,712	1,450,977	+69,210	-8,735
Fugitive operations.....	183,200	186,145	183,200	---	-2,945
Criminal Alien program.....	137,494	168,329	180,009	+42,515	+11,680
Alternatives to detention.....	43,600	43,889	54,889	+11,289	+11,000
Transportation and removal program.....	238,284	249,084	249,084	+10,800	---
Subtotal, Detention and removal operations..	1,984,345	2,107,159	2,118,159	+133,814	+11,000
Supplemental Appropriations - P.L. 110-28					
Emergency appropriations.....	6,000	---	---	-6,000	---
Subtotal, Salaries and expenses.....	3,893,000	4,162,000	4,146,300	+253,300	-15,700
Appropriations.....	(3,887,000)	(4,162,000)	(4,146,300)	(+259,300)	(-15,700)
Emergency appropriations.....	(6,000)	---	---	(-6,000)	---

Homeland Security Appropriations Act - FY 2008 (H.R. 2638)
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2007 Enacted	FY 2008 Request	Bill	Bill vs. Enacted	Bill vs. Request
<hr/>					
Federal protective service:					
Basic security.....	123,310	186,673	186,673	+63,363	---
Building specific security (including capital equipment replacement/acquisition).....	392,701	426,327	426,327	+33,626	---
Subtotal, Federal Protective Service.....	516,011	613,000	613,000	+96,989	---
Offsetting fee collections.....	-516,011	-613,000	-613,000	-96,989	---
Automation modernization:					
ATLAS.....	15,000	---	30,700	+15,700	+30,700
Construction.....	26,281	6,000	6,000	-20,281	---
Emergency appropriations.....	30,000	---	---	-30,000	---
Subtotal, Construction.....	56,281	6,000	6,000	-50,281	---
<hr/>					
Total direct appropriations for Immigration and Customs Enforcement.....	3,964,281	4,168,000	4,183,000	+218,719	+15,000
Fee accounts:					
Immigration inspection user fee.....	(108,000)	(113,500)	(113,500)	(+5,500)	---
Breached bond/detention fund.....	(90,000)	(63,800)	(63,800)	(-26,200)	---
Student exchange and visitor fee.....	(54,349)	(56,200)	(56,200)	(+1,851)	---
Subtotal, fee accounts.....	(252,349)	(233,500)	(233,500)	(-18,849)	---
<hr/>					
Subtotal, Immigration and Customs Enforcement (gross).....	(4,732,641)	(5,014,500)	(5,029,500)	(+296,859)	(+15,000)
Offsetting fee collections.....	(-516,011)	(-613,000)	(-613,000)	(-96,989)	---
<hr/>					
Total, Immigration and Customs Enforcement.....	(4,216,630)	(4,401,500)	(4,416,500)	(+199,870)	(+15,000)
Appropriations.....	(3,928,281)	(4,168,000)	(4,183,000)	(+254,719)	(+15,000)
Emergency appropriations.....	(36,000)	---	---	(-36,000)	---
Fee accounts.....	(252,349)	(233,500)	(233,500)	(-18,849)	---
<hr/>					
Transportation Security Administration					
Aviation security:					
Screening operations:					
Screener workforce:					
Privatized screening.....	148,600	143,385	147,190	-1,410	+3,805
Passenger & Baggage screener - personnel, compensation, and benefits.....	2,470,200	2,601,404	2,589,304	+119,104	-12,100
Subtotal, Sceeener workforce.....	2,618,800	2,744,789	2,736,494	+117,694	-8,295
Screening training and other.....	244,466	200,466	200,466	-44,000	---
Human resource services.....	207,234	182,234	182,234	-25,000	---
Checkpoint support.....	173,366	136,000	250,000	+76,634	+114,000
EDS/ETD Systems:					
EDS procurement and installation.....	279,400	440,000	560,000	+280,600	+120,000
EDS/ETD maintenance and other equipment...	222,000	264,000	264,000	+42,000	---
Operation integration.....	23,000	25,000	25,000	+2,000	---
Subtotal, EDS/ETD Systems.....	524,400	729,000	849,000	+324,600	+120,000
Subtotal, Screening operations.....	3,768,266	3,992,489	4,218,194	+449,928	+225,705
Aviation security direction and enforcement:					
Aviation regulation and other enforcement.....	217,516	223,653	223,653	+6,137	---
Airport management, IT, and support.....	666,032	655,933	651,933	-14,099	-4,000
FFDO and flight crew training.....	25,000	25,091	27,530	+2,530	+2,439
Air cargo.....	55,000	55,768	73,000	+18,000	+17,232
Airport perimeter security.....	---	---	4,000	+4,000	+4,000

Homeland Security Appropriations Act - FY 2008 (H.R. 2638)
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2007 Enacted	FY 2008 Request	Bill	Bill vs. Enacted	Bill vs. Request
Subtotal, Aviation security direction and enforcement.....	963,548	960,445	980,116	+16,568	+19,671
Discretionary fees:					
General aviation at DCA.....	---	200	200	+200	---
Indirect air cargo.....	---	25	25	+25	---
Total, Discretionary fees.....	---	225	225	+225	---
Supplemental Appropriations - P.L. 110-28					
Emergency appropriations.....	390,000	---	---	-390,000	---
(by transfer) (P.L. 110-5, sec. 21101).....	(7,300)	---	---	(-7,300)	---
Aviation security capital fund.....	(250,000)	---	---	(-250,000)	---
Total, Aviation security (gross) (including transfers).....	5,129,114	4,953,159	5,198,535	+69,421	+245,376
Offsetting fee collections (non-mandatory).....	-2,420,000	-2,710,000	-2,710,000	-290,000	---
Discretionary fees - offsetting collections (non-mandatory).....	---	-225	-225	-225	---
Total, Aviation security (net).....	2,709,114	2,242,934	2,488,310	-220,804	+245,376
Appropriation.....	(2,311,814)	(2,242,934)	(2,488,310)	(+176,496)	(+245,376)
Emergency appropriation.....	(390,000)	---	---	(-390,000)	---
by transfer.....	(7,300)	---	---	(-7,300)	---
Aviation security capital fund.....	(250,000)	---	---	(-250,000)	---
Surface transportation security:					
Staffing and operations.....	24,000	24,485	24,485	+485	---
Rail security inspectors and canines.....	13,200	16,928	16,928	+3,728	---
Subtotal, Surface transportation security.....	37,200	41,413	41,413	+4,213	---
Transportation Threat Assessment and Credentialing:					
Secure Flight.....	15,000	53,000	25,000	+10,000	-28,000
Transfer to Aviation Security (P.L. 110-5, sec. 21101).....	(-2,000)	---	---	(+2,000)	---
Crew vetting.....	14,700	14,990	14,990	+290	---
Screening administration and operations.....	10,000	9,500	9,500	-500	---
Registered Traveler Program fees.....	(35,101)	(35,101)	(35,101)	---	---
TWIC fees.....	(20,000)	(26,500)	(26,500)	(+6,500)	---
Hazardous materials fees.....	(19,000)	(19,000)	(19,000)	---	---
Alien Flight School (by transfer from DOJ) - fees.....	(2,000)	(2,000)	(2,000)	---	---
Subtotal, Transportation Threat Assessment and Credentialing (Gross) (including transfers)....	(113,801)	(160,091)	(132,091)	(+18,290)	(-28,000)
Fee funded programs.....	(76,101)	(82,601)	(82,601)	(+6,500)	---
Subtotal, Transportation Threat Assessment and Credentialing (net) (including transfers)....	37,700	77,490	49,490	+11,790	-28,000
Appropriations.....	(39,700)	(77,490)	(49,490)	(+9,790)	(-28,000)
(transfer out).....	(-2,000)	---	---	(+2,000)	---
Transportation security support:					
Administration:					
Headquarters administration.....	294,191	294,191	296,291	+2,100	+2,100
Information technology.....	210,092	209,324	209,324	-768	---
Subtotal, Administration.....	504,283	503,515	505,615	+1,332	+2,100
Intelligence.....	21,000	21,000	21,000	---	---
Subtotal, Transportation security support.....	525,283	524,515	526,615	+1,332	+2,100
Federal Air Marshals:					
Management and administration.....	628,494	644,173	644,173	+15,679	---
Travel and training.....	85,800	77,827	77,827	-7,973	---

Homeland Security Appropriations Act - FY 2008 (H.R. 2638)
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2007 Enacted	FY 2008 Request	Bill	Bill vs. Enacted	Bill vs. Request
Supplemental Appropriations - P.L. 110-28					
Emergency appropriations.....	5,000	---	---	-5,000	---
Subtotal, Federal Air Marshals.....	719,294	722,000	722,000	+2,706	---
Appropriations.....	(714,294)	(722,000)	(722,000)	(+7,706)	---
Emergency appropriations.....	(5,000)	---	---	(-5,000)	---
Rescission of unobligated balances.....	-66,712	---	---	+66,712	---
===== Total, Transportation Security Administration (gross) (including transfers).....					
	6,707,980	6,401,178	6,620,654	-87,326	+219,476
Offsetting fee collections.....	-2,420,000	-2,710,225	-2,710,225	-290,225	---
Aviation security capital fund.....	(250,000)	---	---	(-250,000)	---
Fee accounts.....	(76,101)	(82,601)	(82,601)	(+6,500)	---
===== Total, Transportation Security Administration (net) (including transfers).....					
	3,961,879	3,608,352	3,827,828	-134,051	+219,476
Appropriations.....	(3,628,291)	(3,608,352)	(3,827,828)	(+199,537)	(+219,476)
Emergency appropriations.....	(395,000)	---	---	(-395,000)	---
Rescissions.....	(-66,712)	---	---	(+66,712)	---
by transfer.....	(7,300)	---	---	(-7,300)	---
transfer out.....	(-2,000)	---	---	(+2,000)	---
===== United States Coast Guard					
Operating expenses:					
Military pay and allowances.....	2,788,276	2,958,622	2,932,636	+144,360	-25,986
Civilian pay and benefits.....	569,434	630,669	592,769	+23,335	-37,900
Training and recruiting.....	180,876	186,548	186,146	+5,270	-402
Operating funds and unit level maintenance.....	1,011,374	1,138,199	1,148,447	+137,073	+10,248
Centrally managed accounts.....	201,968	226,215	226,494	+24,526	+279
Intermediate and depot level maintenance.....	710,729	754,042	753,750	+43,021	-292
Port Security.....	15,000	---	45,000	+30,000	+45,000
Less adjustment for defense function.....	-340,000	-340,000	-340,000	---	---
Defense function.....	340,000	340,000	340,000	---	---
Supplemental Appropriations - P.L. 110-28					
Rescission (sec. 6404).....	-25,596	---	---	+25,596	---
Transfer from Defense, O&M Navy (emergency)...	(120,293)	---	---	(-120,293)	---
Subtotal, Operating expenses	5,572,354	5,894,295	5,885,242	+312,888	-9,053
Appropriations.....	(5,137,657)	(5,554,295)	(5,545,242)	(+407,585)	(-9,053)
Rescissions.....	(-25,596)	---	---	(+25,596)	---
By transfer emergency.....	(120,293)	---	---	(-120,293)	---
Defense function.....	(340,000)	(340,000)	(340,000)	---	---
Environmental compliance and restoration.....	10,880	12,079	15,000	+4,120	+2,921
Reserve training.....	122,448	126,883	126,883	+4,435	---
Acquisition, construction, and improvements:					
Vessels:					
Response boat medium (41ft UTB and NSB replacement).....	24,750	9,200	9,200	-15,550	---
Special purpose craft - Law enforcement (emergency).....	1,800	---	---	-1,800	---
Subtotal, Vessels.....	26,550	9,200	9,200	-17,350	---
Aircraft:					
HH-60 replacement.....	15,000	---	---	-15,000	---
Other equipment:					
Automatic identification system.....	11,238	12,000	12,000	+762	---
Defense messaging system.....	---	5,000	5,000	+5,000	---
National distress and response system modernization (Rescue 21).....	39,600	80,800	80,800	+41,200	---
HF Recap.....	2,475	2,500	2,500	+25	---
National Capital Region Air Defense.....	48,510	11,500	11,500	-37,010	---

Homeland Security Appropriations Act - FY 2008 (H.R. 2638)
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2007 Enacted	FY 2008 Request	Bill	Bill vs. Enacted	Bill vs. Request
Emergency appropriations.....	18,000	---	---	-18,000	---
Subtotal.....	66,510	11,500	11,500	-55,010	---
Maritime security response team - shoothouse Rescission.....	---	1,800	1,800	+1,800	---
	-4,100	---	---	+4,100	---
Subtotal, Other equipment.....	115,723	113,600	113,600	-2,123	---
Personnel compensation and benefits:					
Core acquisition costs.....	500	505	505	+5	---
Direct personnel cost.....	80,500	---	82,215	+1,715	+82,215
Subtotal, Personnel compensation and benefits.....	81,000	505	82,720	+1,720	+82,215
Integrated deepwater systems:					
Aircraft:					
Maritime Patrol Aircraft (MPA).....	47,616	170,016	100,000	+52,384	-70,016
Emergency appropriations.....	100,500	---	---	-100,500	---
VTOL unmanned aerial vehicles (UAVs).....	4,950	---	---	-4,950	---
HH-60 conversions.....	49,302	57,300	57,300	+7,998	---
HC-130H conversion/sustainment.....	48,955	18,900	18,900	-30,055	---
HH-65 conversion project.....	32,373	50,800	50,800	+18,427	---
Armed helicopter equipment.....	55,740	24,600	24,600	-31,140	---
C-130J fleet introduction.....	4,950	5,800	5,800	+850	---
Rescission.....	---	---	-38,608	-38,608	-38,608
Subtotal, Aircraft.....	344,386	327,416	218,792	-125,594	-108,624
Surface ships:					
National Security Cutter (NSC).....	362,280	165,700	105,800	-256,480	-59,900
Emergency appropriations.....	55,500	---	---	-55,500	---
Fast Response Cutter (FRC-A).....	41,580	---	---	-41,580	---
Replacement Patrol Boat (FRC-B).....	48,000	53,600	---	-48,000	-53,600
IDS small boats.....	1,188	2,700	2,700	+1,512	---
Patrol Boat sustainment.....	---	40,500	61,000	+61,000	+20,500
Medium endurance cutter sustainment.....	45,318	34,500	50,000	+4,682	+15,500
Reappropriation, patrol boats.....	78,693	---	---	-78,693	---
Rescission, fast response boat.....	-78,693	---	---	+78,693	---
Rescission.....	-20,000	-48,787	-68,841	-48,841	-20,054
Subtotal, Surface ships.....	533,866	248,213	150,659	-383,207	-97,554
Technology obsolescence.....	---	700	700	+700	---
C4ISR.....	50,000	89,630	89,630	+39,630	---
Logistics.....	36,000	36,500	36,500	+500	---
Systems engineering and integration.....	35,145	35,145	35,145	---	---
Government program management.....	46,475	50,475	59,475	+13,000	+9,000
Subtotal, Integrated deepwater systems.....	1,045,872	788,079	590,901	-454,971	-197,178
Shore facilities and aids to navigation.....	22,000	37,897	37,897	+15,897	---
Supplemental Appropriations - P.L. 110-28 Sec. 6404.....	30,000	---	---	-30,000	---
Subtotal, Acquisition, construction, and improvements.....	1,336,145	949,281	834,318	-501,827	-114,963
Appropriations.....	(1,263,138)	(998,068)	(941,767)	(-321,371)	(-56,301)
Emergency appropriations.....	(175,800)	---	---	(-175,800)	---
Rescissions.....	(-102,793)	(-48,787)	(-107,449)	(-4,656)	(-58,662)
Alteration of bridges.....	16,000	---	16,000	---	+16,000
Research, development, test, and evaluation.....	17,000	17,583	22,583	+5,583	+5,000
Health care fund contribution.....	278,704	272,111	272,111	-6,593	---
Subtotal, U.S. Coast Guard discretionary.....	7,233,238	7,272,232	7,172,137	-61,101	-100,095
Retired pay (mandatory).....	1,063,323	1,184,720	1,184,720	+121,397	---

Homeland Security Appropriations Act - FY 2008 (H.R. 2638)
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2007 Enacted	FY 2008 Request	Bill	Bill vs. Enacted	Bill vs. Request
<hr/>					
Supplemental Appropriations - P.L. 110-28					
Retired Pay (mandatory) (Sec. 6401).....	30,000	---	---	-30,000	---
Subtotal, Retired pay (mandatory).....	1,093,323	1,184,720	1,184,720	+91,397	---
<hr/>					
Total, United States Coast Guard (incl transfer)	8,446,854	8,456,952	8,356,857	-89,997	-100,095
Appropriations.....	(8,279,150)	(8,505,739)	(8,464,306)	(+185,156)	(-41,433)
Emergency appropriations.....	(175,800)	---	---	(-175,800)	---
Rescissions.....	(-128,389)	(-48,787)	(-107,449)	(+20,940)	(-58,662)
By transfer (including emergencies).....	(120,293)	---	---	(-120,293)	---
<hr/>					
United States Secret Service					
Salaries and expenses:					
Administration:					
Headquarters, management and administration...	169,370	175,934	175,934	+6,564	---
Protection:					
Protection of persons and facilities.....	651,247	696,635	689,535	+38,288	-7,100
Protective intelligence activities.....	55,509	57,704	57,704	+2,195	---
National special security events.....	1,000	1,000	1,000	---	---
NSSE reappropriation (H.R. 5441, sec. 560).....	2,500	---	---	-2,500	---
NSSE rescission of unobligated balances.....	-2,500	---	---	+2,500	---
Presidential candidate nominee protection.....	18,400	85,250	85,250	+66,850	---
White House mail screening.....	16,201	26,601	16,201	---	-10,400
Subtotal, Protection.....	742,357	867,190	849,690	+107,333	-17,500
Investigations:					
Domestic field operations.....	---	---	230,142	+230,142	+230,142
International field office administration, operations.....	---	---	27,520	+27,520	+27,520
Electronic crimes special agent program and electronic crimes task forces.....	---	---	48,565	+48,565	+48,565
Support for missing and exploited children.....	---	---	8,366	+8,366	+8,366
Subtotal, Investigations.....	---	---	314,593	+314,593	+314,593
Training:					
Rowley training center.....	50,052	51,954	51,954	+1,902	---
Supplemental Appropriations - P.L. 110-28					
Rescission (sec. 6404).....	-450	---	---	+450	---
Subtotal, Salaries and expenses.....	961,329	1,095,078	1,392,171	+430,842	+297,093
Appropriations.....	(964,279)	(1,095,078)	(1,392,171)	(+427,892)	(+297,093)
Rescissions.....	(-2,950)	---	---	(+2,950)	---
Investigations and Field Operations:					
Domestic field operations.....	236,093	219,742	---	-236,093	-219,742
International field administration and operations.....	22,616	27,520	---	-22,616	-27,520
Electronic crimes special agent program and electronic crimes task forces.....	44,079	44,565	---	-44,079	-44,565
Forensic support and grants to NCMEC.....	8,366	8,366	---	-8,366	-8,366
Subtotal, Investigations and Field operations...	311,154	300,193	---	-311,154	-300,193
Acquisition, construction, improvements, and related expenses (Rowley training center).....	3,725	3,725	3,725	---	---
<hr/>					
Total, United States Secret Service.....	1,276,208	1,398,996	1,395,896	+119,688	-3,100
Appropriations.....	(1,279,158)	(1,398,996)	(1,395,896)	(+116,738)	(-3,100)
Rescissions.....	(-2,950)	---	---	(+2,950)	---
<hr/>					
Total, title II, Security, Enforcement, and Investigations (including transfers).....	25,832,578	26,415,592	26,596,873	+764,295	+181,281
Appropriations.....	(23,550,036)	(26,464,379)	(26,704,322)	(+3,154,286)	(+239,943)
Emergency appropriations.....	(2,358,000)	---	---	(-2,358,000)	---

Homeland Security Appropriations Act - FY 2008 (H.R. 2638)
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2007 Enacted	FY 2008 Request	Bill	Bill vs. Enacted	Bill vs. Request
Rescissions.....	(-198,051)	(-48,787)	(-107,449)	(+90,602)	(-58,662)
By transfer.....	(7,300)	---	---	(-7,300)	---
Transfer out.....	(-2,000)	---	---	(+2,000)	---
By transfer emergency.....	(120,293)	---	---	(-120,293)	---
Transfer out (emergency).....	(-3,000)	---	---	(+3,000)	---
(Fee Accounts).....	(1,593,681)	(1,701,026)	(1,701,026)	(+107,345)	---
=====					
TITLE III - PROTECTION, PREPAREDNESS, RESPONSE AND RECOVERY					
National Protection and Programs					
Management and administration:					
Administrative activities.....	37,812	46,290	31,290	-6,522	-15,000
Risk management and analysis.....	---	---	9,056	+9,056	+9,056
Total, Management and administration.....	37,812	46,290	40,346	+2,534	-5,944
Infrastructure Protection and Information Security					
Management and administration.....	54,580	---	---	-54,580	---
Infrastructure protection:					
Identification and analysis.....	69,064	68,970	78,970	+9,906	+10,000
Coordination and information sharing.....	80,772	57,821	83,821	+3,049	+26,000
Mitigation programs.....	74,991	108,793	108,793	+33,802	---
Risk analysis.....	2,316	4,532	---	-2,316	-4,532
Supplemental Appropriations - P.L. 110-28					
Emergency appropriations.....	24,000	---	---	-24,000	---
Rescission (sec. 6404).....	-968	---	---	+968	---
Total, Infrastructure protection.....	250,175	240,116	271,584	+21,409	+31,468
Appropriations.....	(227,143)	(240,116)	(271,584)	(+44,441)	(+31,468)
Emergency appropriations.....	(24,000)	---	---	(-24,000)	---
Rescissions.....	(-968)	---	---	(+968)	---
Cyber security.....	92,000	97,688	87,073	-4,927	-10,615
Office of Emergency Communications.....	17,000	35,700	45,700	+28,700	+10,000
National Security/Emergency Preparedness					
Telecommunications:					
Priority telecommunications.....	105,568	82,821	82,821	-22,747	---
Next generation networks.....	14,080	52,064	18,065	+3,985	-33,999
Programs to study and enhance telecommunications.....	14,125	16,733	16,733	+2,608	---
Critical infrastructure protection.....	8,341	10,905	10,905	+2,564	---
Risk analysis.....	1,158	2,250	---	-1,158	-2,250
Total, National Security/Emergency Preparedness Telecommunications.....	143,272	164,773	128,524	-14,748	-36,249
Subtotal, Infrastructure Protection and Information Security (Defense function).....	557,027	538,277	532,881	-24,146	-5,396
Appropriations.....	(533,995)	(538,277)	(532,881)	(-1,114)	(-5,396)
Emergency appropriations.....	(24,000)	---	---	(-24,000)	---
Rescissions.....	(-968)	---	---	(+968)	---
U.S. Visitor and Immigrant Status Indicator Technology	362,494	462,000	462,000	+99,506	---
=====					
Total, National Protection and Programs.....	957,333	1,046,567	1,035,227	+77,894	-11,340
Appropriations.....	(934,301)	(1,046,567)	(1,035,227)	(+100,926)	(-11,340)
Emergency appropriations.....	(24,000)	---	---	(-24,000)	---
Rescissions.....	-968	---	---	+968	---
=====					
Office of Health Affairs					
Chief Medical Officer.....	4,980	---	---	-4,980	---
Biowatch.....	78,120	79,108	77,108	-1,012	-2,000

Homeland Security Appropriations Act - FY 2008 (H.R. 2638)
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2007 Enacted	FY 2008 Request	Bill	Bill vs. Enacted	Bill vs. Request
National biosurveillance integration system.....	8,000	8,000	8,000	---	---
Rapidly deployable chemical detection system.....	2,600	2,600	2,600	---	---
Planning and coordination.....	---	4,475	4,475	+4,475	---
Salaries and expenses.....	5,598	23,750	25,750	+20,152	+2,000
Supplemental Appropriations - P.L. 110-28					
Emergency appropriations.....	8,000	---	---	-8,000	---
Total, Office of Health Affairs.....	107,298	117,933	117,933	+10,635	---
Appropriations.....	(99,298)	(117,933)	(117,933)	(+18,635)	---
Emergency appropriations.....	(8,000)	---	---	(-8,000)	---
=====					
Federal Emergency Management Agency					
Management and administration:					
Operations activities.....	451,760	547,670	555,070	+103,310	+7,400
Urban search and rescue teams.....	25,000	25,000	35,000	+10,000	+10,000
Office of National Capitol Region Coordination....	2,741	6,000	6,000	+3,259	---
National Preparedness Integration Program.....	6,459	---	---	-6,459	---
Defense function.....	49,240	88,930	88,930	+39,690	---
(transfer from Disaster relief).....	---	(48,000)	---	---	(-48,000)
Supplemental Appropriations - P.L. 110-28					
Emergency appropriations.....	14,000	---	---	-14,000	---
Rescission (sec. 6406).....	-450	---	---	+450	---
Subtotal, Management and administration					
(including transfers).....	548,750	715,600	685,000	+136,250	-30,600
Appropriations.....	(535,200)	(667,600)	(685,000)	(+149,800)	(+17,400)
Emergency appropriations.....	(14,000)	---	---	(-14,000)	---
Rescissions.....	(-450)	---	---	(+450)	---
by transfer.....	---	(48,000)	---	---	(-48,000)
(Non-defense appropriations).....	(485,960)	(578,670)	(596,070)	(+110,110)	(+17,400)
(Defense appropriations).....	(49,240)	(88,930)	(88,930)	(+39,690)	---
State and Local Programs:					
State formula grants:					
State Homeland Security Grant Program.....	525,000	250,000	550,000	+25,000	+300,000
Law enforcement terrorism prevention grants...	375,000	---	400,000	+25,000	+400,000
Subtotal, State formula grants.....	900,000	250,000	950,000	+50,000	+700,000
Discretionary grants:					
UASI: High-threat, high-density urban area....	770,000	800,000	800,000	+30,000	---
Buffer Zone Protection Program.....	50,000	50,000	50,000	---	---
Port security grants.....	210,000	210,000	400,000	+190,000	+190,000
Rail and transit security grants.....	175,000	175,000	400,000	+225,000	+225,000
Trucking security grants.....	12,000	9,000	10,000	-2,000	+1,000
Intercity bus security grants.....	12,000	12,000	11,000	-1,000	-1,000
Metropolitan Medical Response System grants...	33,000	---	50,000	+17,000	+50,000
Citizen Corps grants.....	15,000	15,000	17,000	+2,000	+2,000
REAL ID grants.....	---	---	50,000	+50,000	+50,000
Interoperable communications grants.....	---	---	50,000	+50,000	+50,000
Commercial equipment direct assistance program	50,000	---	20,000	-30,000	+20,000
Subtotal, Discretionary grants.....	1,327,000	1,271,000	1,858,000	+531,000	+587,000
National Programs:					
National Domestic Preparedness Consortium....	88,000	38,000	88,000	---	+50,000
Center for Domestic Preparedness.....	57,000	48,500	51,500	-5,500	+3,000
Noble Training Center.....	5,500	5,500	5,500	---	---
National exercise program.....	49,000	50,000	50,000	+1,000	---
Technical assistance.....	6,000	6,000	18,000	+12,000	+12,000
Training grants.....	61,000	3,000	61,000	---	+58,000
Evaluations and assessments.....	19,000	19,000	19,000	---	---
Rural Domestic Preparedness Consortium.....	12,000	---	---	-12,000	---
Subtotal, National Programs.....	297,500	170,000	293,000	-4,500	+123,000
Management and administration.....	---	5,000	---	---	-5,000

Homeland Security Appropriations Act - FY 2008 (H.R. 2638)
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2007 Enacted	FY 2008 Request	Bill	Bill vs. Enacted	Bill vs. Request
Supplemental Appropriations - P.L. 110-28					
Port security grants.....	110,000	---	---	-110,000	---
Rail and transit security grants.....	100,000	---	---	-100,000	---
Regional grants/regional technical assistance. Technical assistance for detection and response equipment training.....	35,000 2,000	---	---	-35,000 -2,000	---
Subtotal, State and Local Programs.....	2,771,500	1,696,000	3,101,000	+329,500	+1,405,000
Appropriations.....	(2,524,500)	(1,696,000)	(3,101,000)	(+576,500)	(+1,405,000)
Emergency appropriations.....	(247,000)	---	---	(-247,000)	---
Firefighter assistance grants:					
Fire grants.....	547,000	300,000	570,000	+23,000	+270,000
Staffing for Adequate Fire and Emergency Response (SAFER) Act grants.....	115,000	---	230,000	+115,000	+230,000
Subtotal, Firefighter Assistance grants.....	662,000	300,000	800,000	+138,000	+500,000
Emergency management performance grants.....	200,000	200,000	300,000	+100,000	+100,000
Supplemental Appropriations - P.L. 110-28					
Emergency appropriations.....	50,000	---	---	-50,000	---
Subtotal, Emergency management performance grants	250,000	200,000	300,000	+50,000	+100,000
Subtotal, Grants and training.....	3,683,500	2,196,000	4,201,000	+517,500	+2,005,000
Appropriations.....	(3,386,500)	(2,196,000)	(4,201,000)	(+814,500)	(+2,005,000)
Emergency appropriations.....	(297,000)	---	---	(-297,000)	---
Radiological Emergency Preparedness Program.....	-477	-505	-505	-28	---
United States Fire Administration.....	41,349	43,300	43,300	+1,951	---
Public health programs.....	33,885	---	---	-33,885	---
Disaster relief.....	1,500,000	1,700,000	1,700,000	+200,000	---
(transfer to Management and administration).....	---	(-48,000)	---	---	(+48,000)
(transfer to Inspector General).....	(-13,500)	---	---	(+13,500)	---
Supplemental Appropriations - P.L. 110-28					
Emergency appropriations.....	4,110,000	---	---	-4,110,000	---
Transfer to OIG (emergency).....	(-4,000)	---	---	(+4,000)	---
Transfer from SBA Disaster loans program account (emergency).....	(150,000)	---	---	(-150,000)	---
Subtotal, Disaster Relief.....	5,742,500	1,652,000	1,700,000	-4,042,500	+48,000
Disaster assistance direct loan program account:					
(Limitation on direct loans).....	(25,000)	(25,000)	(25,000)	---	---
Direct loan subsidy.....	---	295	295	+295	---
Supplemental Appropriations - P.L. 110-28					
Sec. 4502 Loan forgiveness (emergency).....	320,000	---	---	-320,000	---
Administrative expenses.....	569	580	580	+11	---
Flood map modernization fund.....	198,980	194,881	230,000	+31,020	+35,119
National flood insurance fund:					
Salaries and expenses.....	38,230	45,642	45,642	+7,412	---
Flood hazard mitigation.....	90,358	99,358	99,358	+9,000	---
Offsetting fee collections.....	-128,588	-145,000	-145,000	-16,412	---
Transfer to National flood mitigation fund.....	(-31,000)	(-34,000)	(-34,000)	(-3,000)	---
National flood mitigation fund (by transfer).....	(31,000)	(34,000)	(34,000)	(+3,000)	---
National pre-disaster mitigation fund.....	100,000	100,053	120,000	+20,000	+19,947
Emergency food and shelter.....	151,470	140,000	153,000	+1,530	+13,000
Total, Federal Emergency Management Agency (including transfers).....	10,820,526	5,042,204	7,132,670	-3,687,856	+2,090,466
Appropriations.....	(5,947,476)	(5,042,204)	(7,132,670)	(+1,185,194)	(+2,090,466)
Emergency appropriations.....	(4,741,000)	---	---	(-4,741,000)	---
Rescissions.....	(-450)	---	---	(+450)	---
by transfer.....	(31,000)	(82,000)	(34,000)	(+3,000)	(-48,000)
by transfer (emergency).....	(150,000)	---	---	(-150,000)	---
transfer out.....	(-44,500)	(-82,000)	(-34,000)	(+10,500)	(+48,000)

Homeland Security Appropriations Act - FY 2008 (H.R. 2638)
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2007 Enacted	FY 2008 Request	Bill	Bill vs. Enacted	Bill vs. Request
transfer out (emergency).....	(-4,000)	---	---	(+4,000)	---
(Limitation on direct loans).....	(25,000)	(25,000)	(25,000)	---	---
Rescission, Counter Terrorism Fund.....	-16,000	---	---	+16,000	---
=====					
Total, title III, Protection, Preparedness, Response and Recovery (including transfers)...	11,869,157	6,206,704	8,285,830	-3,583,327	+2,079,126
Appropriations.....	(6,981,075)	(6,206,704)	(8,285,830)	(+1,304,755)	(+2,079,126)
Emergency appropriations.....	(4,773,000)	---	---	(-4,773,000)	---
Rescissions.....	(-17,418)	---	---	(+17,418)	---
By transfer.....	(31,000)	(82,000)	(34,000)	(+3,000)	(-48,000)
Transfer out.....	(-44,500)	(-82,000)	(-34,000)	(+10,500)	(+48,000)
By transfer (emergency).....	(150,000)	---	---	(-150,000)	---
Transfer out emergency.....	(-4,000)	---	---	(+4,000)	---
(Limitation on direct loans).....	(25,000)	(25,000)	(25,000)	---	---
=====					
TITLE IV - RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT, TRAINING, AND SERVICES					
U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services					
Business transformation.....	47,000	---	---	-47,000	---
Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements (SAVE).....	21,100	---	---	-21,100	---
Employment Eligibility Verification (EEV) program.....	113,890	30,000	30,000	-83,890	---
Supplemental Appropriations - P.L. 110-28 Emergency appropriations.....	8,000	---	---	-8,000	---

Subtotal, Citizenship and Immigration Services..	189,990	30,000	30,000	-159,990	---
Appropriations.....	(181,990)	(30,000)	(30,000)	(-151,990)	---
Emergency appropriations.....	(8,000)	---	---	(-8,000)	---

Adjudication services (fee account):					
Pay and benefits.....	(624,600)	(763,962)	(763,962)	(+139,362)	---
District operations.....	(385,400)	(551,701)	(551,701)	(+166,301)	---
Service center operations.....	(267,000)	(354,527)	(354,527)	(+87,527)	---
Asylum, refugee and international operations.....	(75,000)	(91,120)	(91,120)	(+16,120)	---
Records operations.....	(67,000)	(80,589)	(80,589)	(+13,589)	---
Business transformation.....	---	(139,000)	(139,000)	(+139,000)	---

Subtotal, Adjudication services.....	(1,419,000)	(1,980,899)	(1,980,899)	(+561,899)	---

Information and customer services (fee account):					
Pay and benefits.....	(81,000)	(93,132)	(93,132)	(+12,132)	---
Operating expenses:					
National Customer Service Center.....	(48,000)	(49,357)	(49,357)	(+1,357)	---
Information services.....	(15,000)	(19,375)	(19,375)	(+4,375)	---

Subtotal, Information and customer services..	(144,000)	(161,864)	(161,864)	(+17,864)	---

Administration (fee account):					
Pay and benefits.....	(45,000)	(79,268)	(79,268)	(+34,268)	---
Operating expenses.....	(196,000)	(295,289)	(295,289)	(+99,289)	---

Subtotal, Administration.....	(241,000)	(374,557)	(374,557)	(+133,557)	---

Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements (SAVE) (fee accounts).....	---	(21,552)	(21,552)	(+21,552)	---
=====					
Total, U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services	(1,993,990)	(2,568,872)	(2,568,872)	(+574,882)	---
Appropriations.....	(181,990)	(30,000)	(30,000)	(-151,990)	---
Emergency appropriations.....	(8,000)	---	---	(-8,000)	---
Total Fees.....	(1,804,000)	(2,538,872)	(2,538,872)	(+734,872)	---
(Immigration Examination Fee Account).....	(1,760,000)	(2,494,872)	(2,494,872)	(+734,872)	---
(Fraud prevention and detection fee account)	(31,000)	(31,000)	(31,000)	---	---
(H1B Non-Immigrant Petitioner fee account)...	(13,000)	(13,000)	(13,000)	---	---
=====					

Homeland Security Appropriations Act - FY 2008 (H.R. 2638)
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2007 Enacted	FY 2008 Request	Bill	Bill vs. Enacted	Bill vs. Request
<hr/>					
Federal Law Enforcement Training Center					
Salaries and expenses:					
Law enforcement training.....	209,743	219,786	219,786	+10,043	---
Accreditation.....	1,290	---	---	-1,290	---
Supplemental Appropriations - P.L. 110-28					
Transfer from CBP (emergency).....	(3,000)	---	---	(-3,000)	---
Subtotal, Salaries and expenses (incl. transfer)	214,033	219,786	219,786	+5,753	---
Appropriations.....	(211,033)	(219,786)	(219,786)	(+8,753)	---
By transfer (emergency).....	(3,000)	---	---	(-3,000)	---
Acquisition, Construction, Improvements, and Related expenses:					
Direct appropriation.....	42,246	43,270	43,270	+1,024	---
Construction (emergency).....	22,000	---	---	-22,000	---
Subtotal.....	64,246	43,270	43,270	-20,976	---
Total, Federal Law Enforcement Training Center (including transfers).....	278,279	263,056	263,056	-15,223	---
Appropriations.....	(253,279)	(263,056)	(263,056)	(+9,777)	---
Emergency appropriations.....	(22,000)	---	---	(-22,000)	---
By transfer (emergency).....	(3,000)	---	---	(-3,000)	---
=====					
Science and Technology					
Management and administration.....	134,000	142,632	130,787	-3,213	-11,845
Supplemental Appropriations - P.L. 110-28					
Rescission (sec. 6404).....	-1,215	---	---	+1,215	---
Subtotal, Management and administration.....	132,785	142,632	130,787	-1,998	-11,845
Appropriations.....	(134,000)	(142,632)	(130,787)	(-3,213)	(-11,845)
Rescissions.....	(-1,215)	---	---	(+1,215)	---
Research, development, acquisition, and operations:					
Borders and maritime.....	33,436	25,936	25,936	-7,500	---
Chemical and biological.....	229,453	228,949	215,131	-14,322	-13,818
Command, control and interoperability.....	57,612	63,600	61,100	+3,488	-2,500
Explosives.....	105,231	63,749	63,749	-41,482	---
Human factors.....	6,800	12,600	12,600	+5,800	---
Infrastructure and geophysical.....	74,781	24,000	24,000	-50,781	---
Innovation.....	38,000	59,900	51,900	+13,900	-8,000
Laboratory facilities.....	105,649	88,814	88,814	-16,835	---
Test and evaluation/standards.....	25,432	25,520	28,520	+3,088	+3,000
Transition.....	24,040	24,700	26,000	+1,960	+1,300
University programs.....	48,575	38,700	48,575	---	+9,875
Supplemental Appropriations - P.L. 110-28					
Emergency appropriations.....	5,000	---	---	-5,000	---
Subtotal, Research, development, acquisition, and operations.....	754,009	656,468	646,325	-107,684	-10,143
Appropriations.....	(749,009)	(656,468)	(646,325)	(-102,684)	(-10,143)
Emergency appropriations.....	(5,000)	---	---	(-5,000)	---
(Non-defense related appropriations).....	(453,009)	(481,468)	(471,325)	(+18,316)	(-10,143)
(Defense related appropriations).....	(296,000)	(175,000)	(175,000)	(-121,000)	---
Rescission of unobligated balances.....	-125,000	---	---	+125,000	---
=====					
Total, Science and Technology.....	761,794	799,100	777,112	+15,318	-21,988
Appropriations.....	(883,009)	(799,100)	(777,112)	(-105,897)	(-21,988)
Emergency appropriations.....	(5,000)	---	---	(-5,000)	---
Rescissions.....	(-126,215)	---	---	(+126,215)	---

Homeland Security Appropriations Act - FY 2008 (H.R. 2638)
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2007 Enacted	FY 2008 Request	Bill	Bill vs. Enacted	Bill vs. Request
Domestic Nuclear Detection Office					
Management and administration.....	30,468	34,000	31,176	+708	-2,824
Research, development, and operations:					
Systems engineering and architecture.....	26,500	25,100	25,100	-1,400	---
Systems development.....	99,500	108,100	108,100	+8,600	---
Transformational research and development.....	72,600	100,000	100,000	+27,400	---
Assessments.....	25,600	32,000	32,000	+6,400	---
Operational support.....	35,000	37,800	34,800	-200	-3,000
National Technical Nuclear Forensics Center.....	13,300	16,900	16,900	+3,600	---
Supplemental Appropriations - P.L. 110-28					
Emergency appropriations.....	35,000	---	---	-35,000	---
Research, development, and operations.....	307,500	319,900	316,900	+9,400	-3,000
Appropriations.....	(272,500)	(319,900)	(316,900)	(+44,400)	(-3,000)
Emergency appropriations.....	(35,000)	---	---	(-35,000)	---
Systems acquisition:					
Radiation Portal Monitors/Advanced Spectroscopic					
Portal Program.....	165,500	171,500	151,500	-14,000	-20,000
Securing the Cities.....	---	30,000	10,000	+10,000	-20,000
Human Portal Radiation Detection System Program...	12,500	6,500	6,500	-6,000	---
Supplemental Appropriations - P.L. 110-28					
Emergency appropriations.....	100,000	---	---	-100,000	---
Subtotal, Systems acquisition.....	278,000	208,000	168,000	-110,000	-40,000
Appropriations.....	(178,000)	(208,000)	(168,000)	(-10,000)	(-40,000)
Emergency appropriations.....	(100,000)	---	---	(-100,000)	---
Total, Domestic Nuclear Detection Office.....	615,968	561,900	516,076	-99,892	-45,824
Appropriations.....	(480,968)	(561,900)	(516,076)	(+35,108)	(-45,824)
Emergency appropriations.....	(135,000)	---	---	(-135,000)	---
Total, title IV, Research and Development,					
Training, and Services (including transfers)...	1,846,031	1,654,056	1,586,244	-259,787	-67,812
Appropriations.....	(1,799,246)	(1,654,056)	(1,586,244)	(-213,002)	(-67,812)
Emergency appropriations.....	(170,000)	---	---	(-170,000)	---
Rescissions.....	(-126,215)	---	---	(+126,215)	---
By transfer emergency.....	(3,000)	---	---	(-3,000)	---
(Fee Accounts).....	(1,804,000)	(2,538,872)	(2,538,872)	(+734,872)	---
TITLE V - GENERAL PROVISIONS					
Rescission of unobligated balances.....	---	---	-55,273	-55,273	-55,273
Grand total.....	40,307,323	35,373,333	37,438,720	-2,868,603	+2,065,387
Appropriations.....	(33,342,228)	(35,422,120)	(37,601,442)	(+4,259,214)	(+2,179,322)
(Discretionary).....	(32,248,905)	(34,237,400)	(36,416,722)	(+4,167,817)	(+2,179,322)
(Mandatory).....	(1,093,323)	(1,184,720)	(1,184,720)	(+91,397)	---
Emergency appropriations.....	(7,309,000)	---	---	(-7,309,000)	---
Rescissions.....	(-343,905)	(-48,787)	(-162,722)	(+181,183)	(-113,935)
Fee funded programs.....	(3,397,681)	(4,239,898)	(4,239,898)	(+842,217)	---
(Limitation on direct loans).....	(25,000)	(25,000)	(25,000)	---	---
(Transfer out).....	(-51,800)	(-82,000)	(-34,000)	(+17,800)	(+48,000)
(Transfer out) (emergency).....	(-7,000)	---	---	(+7,000)	---
(By transfer).....	(51,800)	(82,000)	(34,000)	(-17,800)	(-48,000)
(By transfer) (emergency).....	(277,293)	---	---	(-277,293)	---

Mr. PRICE of North Carolina. Mr. Chairman, I move that the Committee do now rise and report the bill back to the House with sundry amendments, with the recommendation that the amendments be agreed to and that the bill, as amended, do pass.

The motion was agreed to.

Accordingly, the Committee rose; and the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. McNULTY) having assumed the chair, Mr. ROSS, Acting Chairman of the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union, reported that that Committee, having had under consideration the bill (H.R. 2638) making appropriations for the Department of Homeland Security for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2008, and for other purposes, pursuant to House Resolution 473, he reported the bill back to the House with sundry amendments adopted in the Committee of the Whole, with the recommendation that the amendments be agreed to and that the bill, as amended, do pass.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the rule, the previous question is ordered.

(By unanimous consent, Mr. HOYER was allowed to speak out of order.)

PERMISSION TO REDUCE TIME FOR ELECTRONIC VOTING DURING FURTHER CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 2638 AND DURING CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 2642, MILITARY CONSTRUCTION AND VETERANS AFFAIRS APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2008

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent

(1) That during all proceedings today on H.R. 2642, the Military Construction bill, the Chair be authorized to reduce to 2 minutes the minimum time for electronic voting on any question that otherwise could be subjected to 5-minute voting under clause 8 or 9 of rule XX or under clause 6 of rule XVIII; and

(2) That during proceedings in the House today on both H.R. 2638 and H.R. 2642, the Chair be authorized to reduce to 5 minutes the minimum time for electronic voting on even the first vote in a series.

Mr. Speaker, by this order I am proposing that the first vote in any series in the Committee of the Whole will be, as usual, a 15-minute vote; that the first vote in a series back in the House after concluding business in the Committee of the Whole may be, and we expect will be, a 5-minute vote; and that subsequent votes in any series and in either setting may be 2-minute votes.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Maryland?

There was no objection.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is a separate vote demanded on any amendment reported from the Committee of the Whole? If not, the Chair will put them en gros.

The amendments were agreed to.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the engrossment and third reading of the bill.

The bill was ordered to be engrossed and read a third time, and was read the third time.

MOTION TO RECOMMIT OFFERED BY MR. LEWIS OF CALIFORNIA

Mr. LEWIS of California. Mr. Speaker, I offer a motion to recommit.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is the gentleman opposed to the bill?

Mr. LEWIS of California. I am.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Clerk will report the motion to recommit.

The Clerk read as follows:

Mr. LEWIS of California moves to recommit the bill, H.R. 2638, making appropriations for the Department of Homeland Security for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2008, and for other purposes, to the Committee on Appropriations with instructions to report the same back promptly with an amendment to provide the funds necessary for the construction of at least 2 layers of reinforced fencing, the installation of additional physical barrier, roads, lighting, cameras, and sensors pursuant to section 102(b)(1) of the Illegal Immigration Reform and Immigrant Responsibility Act of 1986 and make adjustments in such other accounts in the bill as may be necessary to comply with the Subcommittee's 302(b) allocation.

□ 1130

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from California is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. LEWIS of California. Mr. Speaker, this motion involves bold direction to provide the funds necessary to fund all aspects of the security barrier needed to protect our borders. When I say "all aspects," I mean fencing, tactical infrastructure and technology, any and all tools needed by the Department of Homeland Security to secure our porous borders. Under this motion, the funds in the bill would have to be allocated as necessary to meet the goals of the Secure Fence Act, which was passed by this body in the last Congress by a vote of 283-138.

Before we can consider so-called immigration reform, we must get our priorities straight and secure our borders. DHS's Secure Border Initiative, or SBI, is working. In FY 2006, we ended the flawed practice of catch and release. In FY 2007, we reduced the apprehension of illegal immigrants along the border by almost 50 percent.

Let's take the next step in FY 2008 with the funding provided in this bill and ensure that border security is more than just a term politicians throw around, that it becomes a reality.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. PRICE of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I rise in opposition to the motion to recommit.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from North Carolina is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. PRICE of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, this motion to recommit, to put it as bluntly as I can possibly put it, would kill this bill. It would simply kill the bill. The wording, the tell-tale wording, "to report the same back promptly," those are code words for killing this bill.

Now, one has to acknowledge that there are some hot buttons that this

motion to recommit touches, words like "fencing" and "border protection." But Members should understand that if they are really interested in border protection, if they are interested in immigration enforcement, if they are interested in funding for a concerted effort, which this bill initiates, to identify and deport persons who have committed serious crimes, if they are interested in enhanced port security and transit security and support for local communities, if our Members are interested in those critical priorities, which is what this bill is focused on, then they will defeat this cleverly-worded fraud. It will kill the bill.

We should defeat the motion to recommit. That is all I believe that needs to be said. I ask for my colleagues to vote no.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Without objection, the previous question is ordered on the motion to recommit.

There was no objection.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion to recommit.

The question was taken; and the Speaker pro tempore announced that the noes appeared to have it.

Mr. LEWIS of California. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the order of the House of today, this is a 5-minute vote.

Pursuant to clause 9 of rule XX and the order of the House of today, the Chair will reduce to 2 minutes the minimum time for the electronic vote on the question of passage.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 200, nays 217, not voting 15, as follows:

[Roll No. 490]

YEAS—200

Aderholt	Chabot	Gillmor
Akin	Coble	Gingrey
Alexander	Cole (OK)	Gohmert
Bachmann	Conaway	Goode
Bachus	Crenshaw	Goodlatte
Baker	Cubin	Granger
Barrett (SC)	Culberson	Graves
Barrow	Davis (KY)	Hall (TX)
Bartlett (MD)	Davis, David	Hastert
Barton (TX)	Davis, Tom	Hastings (WA)
Biggert	Deal (GA)	Hayes
Billbray	Dent	Heller
Billirakis	Donnelly	Hensarling
Bishop (UT)	Doolittle	Herger
Blackburn	Drake	Herseth Sandlin
Blunt	Dreier	Hobson
Boehner	Duncan	Hoekstra
Bono	Ehlers	Hulshof
Boozman	Ellsworth	Hunter
Boren	Emerson	Inglis (SC)
Boustany	English (PA)	Issa
Brown (SC)	Everett	Jindal
Brown-Waite,	Fallin	Johnson (IL)
Ginny	Feeney	Johnson, Sam
Buchanan	Ferguson	Jones (NC)
Burgess	Flake	Jordan
Burton (IN)	Forbes	Keller
Buyer	Fortenberry	King (IA)
Calvert	Fossella	King (NY)
Camp (MI)	Fox	Kingston
Campbell (CA)	Franks (AZ)	Kirk
Cannon	Frelinghuysen	Kline (MN)
Cantor	Gallegly	Knollenberg
Capito	Garrett (NJ)	Kuhl (NY)
Carter	Gerlach	Lamborn
Castle	Gilchrest	Lampson

Latham
LaTourette
Lewis (CA)
Lewis (KY)
Linder
LoBiondo
Lucas
Lungren, Daniel
E.
Mack
Manzullo
Marchant
Marshall
Matheson
McCarthy (CA)
McCaul (TX)
McCotter
McCrery
McHenry
McHugh
McKeon
McMorris
Rogers
Mica
Miller (FL)
Miller (MI)
Miller, Gary
Moran (KS)
Murphy, Patrick
Murphy, Tim
Muscgrave
Myrick

NAYS—217

Abercrombie
Allen
Altmire
Arcuri
Baca
Baird
Baldwin
Bean
Becerra
Berkley
Berman
Berry
Bishop (GA)
Bishop (NY)
Blumenauer
Boswell
Boucher
Boyd (FL)
Boyda (KS)
Brady (PA)
Braley (IA)
Brown, Corrine
Butterfield
Capps
Capuano
Cardoza
Carnahan
Carney
Carson
Castor
Chandler
Clarke
Clay
Cleave
Clyburn
Cohen
Conyers
Cooper
Costa
Costello
Courtney
Cramer
Crowley
Cuellar
Cummings
Davis (AL)
Davis (CA)
Davis (IL)
Davis, Lincoln
DeFazio
DeGette
Delahunt
DeLauro
Diaz-Balart, L.
Diaz-Balart, M.
Dicks
Dingell
Doggett
Doyle
Edwards
Ellison
Emanuel
Engel
Eshoo
Etheridge

Neugebauer
Nunes
Pearce
Pence
Peterson (PA)
Petri
Platts
Poe
Porter
Price (GA)
Pryce (OH)
Putnam
Radanovich
Ramstad
Regula
Rehberg
Reichert
Renzi
Reynolds
Rogers (AL)
Rogers (KY)
Rogers (MI)
Rohrabacher
Roskam
Royce
Ryan (WI)
Sali
Saxton
Schmidt
Sensenbrenner
Shadegg

Shays
Shimkus
Shuler
Shuster
Simpson
Smith (NE)
Smith (NJ)
Smith (TX)
Souder
Stearns
Sullivan
Taylor
Terry
Thornberry
Tiahrt
Tiberi
Turner
Upton
Walberg
Walden (OR)
Walsh (NY)
Wamp
Weldon (FL)
Weller
Whitfield
Wicker
Wilson (NM)
Wilson (SC)
Wolf
Young (AK)
Young (FL)

Tauscher
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)
Tierney
Towns
Udall (CO)
Udall (NM)
Van Hollen
Velázquez

Visclosky
Walz (MN)
Wasserman
Schultz
Waters
Watson
Watt
Waxman
Weiner

Welch (VT)
Wexler
Wilson (OH)
Woolsey
Wu
Wynn
Yarmuth

NOT VOTING—15

Ackerman
Andrews
Bonner
Brady (TX)
Davis, Jo Ann
Frank (MA)
Gutierrez
LaHood
Miller, George
Paul
Pickering
Sessions
Stupak
Tancredo
Westmoreland

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The Speaker pro tempore (during the vote). Members are advised 2 minutes remain in this vote.

□ 1138

So the motion to recommit was rejected.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

(By unanimous consent, Mrs. SCHMIDT was allowed to speak out of order.)

MOMENT OF SILENCE IN MEMORY OF THE
HONORABLE DONALD DANIEL CLANCY

Mrs. SCHMIDT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the memory of a great man, a former Member of this body who is being laid to rest as we speak.

Donald Daniel Clancy was born in Cincinnati, Ohio, on July 24, 1921. He graduated from Elder High School and then attended Xavier University. In 1948, he graduated from Cincinnati Law School and gained admission to the bar the same year. He began practicing law in Cincinnati.

Congressman Clancy began his service to the public as a member of the City Council of Cincinnati in 1952, serving on the Council until becoming Mayor from 1958 to 1960.

Donald Clancy earned the Republican nomination for the Second District in 1960, a seat which I now hold. Donald Clancy won the election and began his service in the 87th Congress. He served for 16 years.

He is being laid to rest as we speak. He is survived by his wife, his children and three wonderful grandchildren. His daughter, Patty, serves in the Ohio legislature as a Senator.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to yield to my colleague, STEVE CHABOT.

Mr. CHABOT. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman for yielding.

Mr. Speaker, I want to join with my fellow Buckeye, Congresswoman SCHMIDT. I think we should take this moment to commemorate the passing of Donald Clancy.

Mr. Speaker, Donald Clancy very honorably represented what was then the Second District, which is now essentially the First District that I represent. He actually lived in JEAN SCHMIDT's district as well.

This was truly a great man. I will not repeat all the details that the gentlewoman said, but he grew up basically on the West Side of Cincinnati and went to a rival high school. He went to Elder, I went to LaSalle. We went to rival law schools, both in Cincinnati, and both served on City Council.

He was elected in 1960, but was defeated in 1976 by Tom Luken. Tom was obviously a Democrat. These were Tom's comments about Donald Clancy: "He was a formidable opponent and well-regarded. People often asked what your relations really are with your opponents. I've never had a cross word with Don Clancy, because he was a good guy and a good friend. Clancy served the district and the city very well. He was respected. I'd say he was loved by his constituents on the West side and throughout the city."

This was truly someone I believe who will be remembered. He served both on the Ways and Means Committee and he served on the Armed Services Committee.

His wife, Betty, his daughters, Patty and Kathy, and son, Dan, and three grand children I know are going to miss him, and we should keep them in our hearts and in our prayers.

His political legacy will be carried on I believe by his daughter Patty, who is in the State senate now. I would ask our colleagues, there are still some here that served with him, if you wouldn't mind dropping a note to the family, I am sure they would greatly appreciate it.

Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman for bringing this up.

Mrs. SCHMIDT. Mr. Speaker, if we could have a moment of silence.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair would ask all Members of the House to rise for a moment of silence in memory of Congressman Clancy.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Without objection, 2-minute voting will resume.

There was no objection.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the passage of the bill.

Under clause 10 of rule XX, the yeas and nays are ordered.

This will be a 2-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 268, nays 150, not voting 14, as follows:

[Roll No. 491]

YEAS—268

Abercrombie	Butterfield	Davis (KY)
Aderholt	Cannon	Davis, Lincoln
Allen	Capito	DeFazio
Altmire	Capps	DeGette
Arcuri	Capuano	Delahunt
Baca	Cardoza	DeLauro
Baird	Carnahan	Dent
Baldwin	Carney	Dicks
Barrow	Carson	Dingell
Bean	Castor	Doggett
Becerra	Chabot	Donnelly
Berkley	Chandler	Doyle
Berman	Clarke	Edwards
Berry	Clay	Ellison
Billirakis	Cleave	Ellsworth
Bishop (GA)	Clyburn	Emanuel
Bishop (NY)	Cohen	Engel
Blumenauer	Cooper	Eshoo
Boren	Costa	Etheridge
Boswell	Costello	Farr
Boucher	Courtney	Fattah
Boyd (FL)	Cramer	Ferguson
Boyda (KS)	Crowley	Filner
Brady (PA)	Cuellar	Fossella
Braley (IA)	Culbertson	Frank (MA)
Brown, Corrine	Cummings	Frelinghuysen
Brown-Waite,	Davis (AL)	Gallely
Ginny	Davis (CA)	Garrett (NJ)
Buchanan	Davis (IL)	Gerlach

Giffords
Gilchrest
Gillibrand
Gonzalez
Gordon
Graves
Green, Al
Green, Gene
Grijalva
Hall (NY)
Hare
Harman
Hastings (FL)
Hayes
Herseht Sandlin
Higgins
Hill
Hinchey
Hinojosa
Hirono
Hodes
Holden
Holt
Honda
Hooley
Hoyer
Inslee
Israel
Jackson (IL)
Jackson-Lee
(TX)
Jefferson
Johnson (GA)
Johnson (IL)
Johnson, E. B.
Jones (OH)
Kagen
Kanjorski
Kaptur
Kennedy
Kildee
Kilpatrick
Kind
King (NY)
Kirk
Klein (FL)
Lampson
Langevin
Lantos
Larsen (WA)
Larson (CT)
LaTourette
Lee
Levin
Lewis (GA)
Lipinski
LoBlundo
Loeback
Lofgren, Zoe
Lowey
Lynch
Mahoney (FL)

Maloney (NY)
Markey
Marshall
Matheson
Matsui
McCarthy (NY)
McCollum (MN)
McDermott
McGovern
McHugh
McIntyre
McNerney
McNulty
Meehan
Meek (FL)
Meeks (NY)
Melancon
Michaud
Miller (MI)
Miller (NC)
Mitchell
Mollohan
Moore (KS)
Moore (WI)
Moran (VA)
Murphy (CT)
Murphy, Patrick
Murphy, Tim
Murtha
Nadler
Napolitano
Neal (MA)
Oberstar
Obey
Olver
Ortiz
Pallone
Pascarell
Pastor
Payne
Perlmutter
Peterson (MN)
Peterson (PA)
Pomeroy
Porter
Price (NC)
Pryce (OH)
Rahall
Ramstad
Rangel
Regula
Reichert
Renzi
Reyes
Reynolds
Rodriguez
Rogers (AL)
Rogers (KY)
Ross
Rothman
Roybal-Allard
Ruppersberger

Rush
Ryan (OH)
Salazar
Sánchez, Linda
T.
Sanchez, Loretta
Sarbanes
Saxton
Schakowsky
Schiff
Schwartz
Scott (GA)
Scott (VA)
Serrano
Sestak
Shays
Shea-Porter
Sherman
Shuler
Sires
Skeltan
Slaughter
Smith (NJ)
Smith (WA)
Snyder
Solis
Space
Spratt
Sutton
Tanner
Tauscher
Taylor
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)
Tierney
Towns
Udall (CO)
Udall (NM)
Upton
Van Hollen
Velázquez
Visclosky
Walsh (NY)
Walz (MN)
Wasserman
Schultz
Waters
Watson
Watt
Waxman
Weiner
Welch (VT)
Weller
Wexler
Whitfield
Wilson (NM)
Wilson (OH)
Woolsey
Wu
Wynn
Yarmuth

NAYS—150

Akin
Alexander
Bachmann
Bachus
Baker
Barrett (SC)
Bartlett (MD)
Barton (TX)
Biggert
Bilbray
Bishop (UT)
Blackburn
Blunt
Boehner
Bono
Boozman
Boustany
Brown (SC)
Burgess
Burton (IN)
Buyer
Calvert
Camp (MI)
Campbell (CA)
Cantor
Carter
Castle
Coble
Cole (OK)
Conaway
Crenshaw
Cubin
Davis, David
Davis, Tom
Deal (GA)

Diaz-Balart, L.
Diaz-Balart, M.
Doolittle
Drake
Dreier
Duncan
Ehlers
Emerson
English (PA)
Everett
Fallin
Feeney
Flake
Forbes
Fortenberry
Fox
Franks (AZ)
Gillmor
Gingrey
Gohmert
Goodlatte
Granger
Hall (TX)
Hastert
Hastings (WA)
Heller
Hensarling
Herger
Hobson
Hoekstra
Hulshof
Hunter
Ingllis (SC)
Issa

Jindal
Johnson, Sam
Jones (NC)
Jordan
Keller
King (IA)
Kingston
Kline (MN)
Knollenberg
Kucinich
Kuhl (NY)
LaHood
Lamborn
Latham
Lewis (CA)
Lewis (KY)
Linder
Lucas
Lungren, Daniel
E.
Mack
Manzullo
Marchant
McCarthy (CA)
McCaul (TX)
McCotter
McCrery
McHenry
McKeon
McMorris
Rodgers
Mica
Miller (FL)
Miller, Gary
Moran (KS)

Musgrave
Myrick
Neugebauer
Nunes
Pearce
Pence
Petri
Pitts
Platts
Poe
Price (GA)
Putnam
Radanovich
Rehberg
Rogers (MI)
Rohrabacher

Ros-Lehtinen
Roskam
Royce
Ryan (WI)
Sali
Schmidt
Sensenbrenner
Shadegg
Shimkus
Shuster
Simpson
Smith (NE)
Smith (TX)
Souder
Stark
Stearns

Ackerman
Andrews
Bonner
Brady (TX)
Conyers

Davis, Jo Ann
Gutierrez
Miller, George
Paul
Pickering

Sessions
Stupak
Tancredo
Westmoreland

NOT VOTING—14

□ 1147

So the bill was passed.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Mr. ANDREWS. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably detained from voting this morning, Friday, June 15, 2007, as I was attending the graduation of my daughter. Had I been present I would have voted "yea" on the following rollcall votes: No. 470, No. 473, No. 483, No. 491.

Had I been present I would have voted "nay" on the following rollcall votes: No. 466, No. 467, No. 468, No. 469, No. 471, No. 472, No. 474, No. 475, No. 476, No. 477, No. 478, No. 479, No. 480, No. 481, No. 482, No. 484, No. 485, No. 486, No. 487, No. 488, No. 489, No. 490.

AUTHORIZING THE CLERK TO MAKE CORRECTIONS IN ENGROSSMENT OF H.R. 2638, DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2008

Mr. PRICE of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the Clerk be authorized to make technical corrections in the engrossment of H.R. 2638, to include corrections of spelling, punctuation, section numbering and cross-referencing, and the insertion of appropriate headings.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from North Carolina?

There was no objection.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Mr. EDWARDS. Mr. Speaker, earlier today I missed rollcall No. 469. Had I voted, I would have voted "aye."

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

A message in writing from the President of the United States was communicated to the House by Ms. Wanda Evans, one of his secretaries.

MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE

A message from the Senate by Ms. Curtis, one of its clerks, announced

that the Senate has passed without amendment a bill and a concurrent resolution of the House of the following titles:

H.R. 692. An act to amend title 4, United States Code, to authorize the Governor of a State, territory, or possession of the United States to order that the National flag be flown at half-staff in that State, territory, or possession in the event of the death of a member of the Armed forces from that State, territory, or possession who dies while serving on active duty.

H. Con. Res. 164. Concurrent Resolution authorizing the use of the Rotunda of the Capitol for a ceremony to award the Congressional Gold Medal to Dr. Norman E. Borlaug.

The message also announced That pursuant to Public Law 101-509, the Chair, on behalf of the Secretary of the Senate, announces the appointment of Cheryl B. Vogt, of Georgia, to the Advisory Committee on the Records of Congress.

PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 2642, MILITARY CONSTRUCTION AND VETERANS AFFAIRS APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2008

Mr. WELCH of Vermont. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that

(1) it be in order at any time for the Speaker, as though pursuant to clause 2(b) of rule XVIII, to declare the House resolved into the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union for consideration of the bill (H.R. 2642) making appropriations for military construction, the Department of Veterans Affairs, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2008, and for other purposes, which shall proceed according to the following order:

The first reading of the bill shall be dispensed with.

All points of order against consideration of the bill are waived except those arising under clause 9 or 10 of rule XXI.

General debate shall be confined to the bill and shall not exceed 1 hour equally divided and controlled by the chairman and ranking minority member of the Committee on Appropriations.

After general debate the bill shall be considered for amendment under the 5-minute rule.

Points of order against provisions in the bill for failure to comply with clause 2 of rule XXI are waived.

Notwithstanding clause 11 of rule XVIII, no amendment to the bill may be offered except:

Pro forma amendments offered at any point in the reading by the chairman or ranking minority member of the Committee on Appropriations or their designees for the purpose of debate;

An amendment by Mr. HAYES regarding funding for BRAC 2005;

An amendment by Mr. BLUMENAUER or Ms. GINNY BROWN-WAITE of Florida regarding funding for BRAC 1990;

An amendment by Mr. PRICE of Georgia regarding funding for VA medical services;

An amendment by Mr. FRANKS of Arizona regarding the conduct of studies of missile defense;

An amendment by Mrs. CAPITO regarding the submission of a report on the implementation of the Office of Rural Health;

An amendment by Mr. GARRETT of New Jersey regarding funding for extended care facilities;

An amendment by Mrs. DRAKE regarding a report on pending disability benefit claims;

An amendment by Mr. BROWN of South Carolina regarding a report on ALS;

An amendment by Mr. HALL of New York regarding awards for certain VA employees;

An amendment by Mrs. MUSGRAVE or Mr. SALAZAR regarding the Pinon Canyon maneuver site;

An amendment by Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas regarding medical centers in underserved urban areas;

An amendment by Mrs. BLACKBURN regarding e-commerce;

An amendment by Mr. DONNELLY regarding implementation of GAO recommendations related to claims processing;

An amendment by Ms. HARMAN or Mr. UPTON regarding purchase of light bulbs;

An amendment by Mr. PEARCE regarding reimbursement of travel expenses for VA employees;

An amendment by Mr. CONAWAY or Mrs. DRAKE regarding deficit spending;

An amendment by Mrs. CAPITO regarding interoperable medical records;

An amendment by Mr. MORAN of Kansas regarding funding for VA medical services;

An amendment by Ms. CORRINE BROWN of Florida regarding funding for the Gainesville Veterans Affairs Medical Center;

An amendment by Mrs. WILSON of New Mexico regarding funding for service dogs for disabled veterans;

An amendment by Mrs. WILSON of New Mexico regarding funding to create a commission concerning women veterans;

An amendment by Mr. MORAN of Kansas regarding funding for certain VA offices;

An amendment by Mr. SMITH of Nebraska or Mr. SALAZAR regarding funding for the VA Office of Rural Health; and

An amendment or amendments by Mr. EDWARDS regarding funding levels.

Each such amendment may be offered only by the Member named in this request or a designee, shall be considered as read, shall not be subject to amendment except that the chairman and the ranking minority member of the Committee on Appropriations and the Subcommittee on Military Construction, Veterans' Affairs, and Related Agencies each may offer one pro forma amendment for the purpose of debate; and shall not be subject to a demand for division of the question in the House or in the Committee of the Whole.

Each amendment shall be debatable for 10 minutes, equally divided and controlled by the proponent and an opponent. An amendment shall be considered to fit the description stated in this request if it addresses in whole or in part the object described.

When the Committee rises and reports the bill back to the House with a recommendation that the bill do pass, the previous question shall be considered as ordered on the bill and amendments thereto to final passage without intervening motion except one motion to recommit with or without instructions.

During consideration in the House of H.R. 2642 pursuant to this order, notwithstanding the operation of the previous question, the Chair may postpone further consideration of the bill to such time as may be designated by the Speaker; and

(2) House Resolution 480 is laid on the table.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Vermont?

Mr. DREIER. Mr. Speaker, reserving the right to object, I rise to congratulate my very good friend from Vermont for moving through this so expeditiously. I want to say we are very supportive of moving ahead with this very, very important piece of legislation which is designed to focus on our Nation's veterans. We look forward to moving as expeditiously as possible to completion of this.

Mr. Speaker, with that, I withdraw my reservation.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Vermont?

There was no objection.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. EDWARDS. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on H.R. 2462, and that I may include tabular material on the same.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Texas?

There was no objection.

MILITARY CONSTRUCTION AND VETERANS AFFAIRS APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2008

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the order of the House of today and rule XVIII, the Chair declares the House in the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union for the consideration of the bill, H.R. 2642.

□ 1155

IN THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Accordingly, the House resolved itself into the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union for the consideration of the bill (H.R. 2642) making appropriations for military

construction, the Department of Veterans Affairs, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2008, and for other purposes, with Mr. LYNCH in the chair.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The CHAIRMAN. Pursuant to the order of the House of today, the bill is considered read the first time.

The gentleman from Texas (Mr. EDWARDS) and the gentleman from Mississippi (Mr. WICKER) each will control 30 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Texas.

Mr. EDWARDS. Mr. Chairman, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Chairman, we now have before us the fiscal year 2008 Military Construction and Veterans Affairs Appropriations bill which will ensure the largest increase in VA health care spending in the 77-year history of the Veterans Affairs. There is \$6 billion over the 2007 level of funding, and \$3.8 billion over the President's request for 2008.

Mr. Chairman, this bill sends a clear message to America's servicemen and -women, their families and our veterans that a grateful Nation deeply respects their service and sacrifice.

The national commander of the Disabled American Veterans, Bradley Barton, went to the heart of what this bill is all about when he described it as "keeping faith with America's veterans."

The bill means our servicemen and -women will have more effective training facilities which will save lives and help them carry out their military missions. It means our military families, who sacrifice so much for our Nation, will have better housing, health care and day-care facilities.

This bill means we will honor our veterans in a meaningful way by providing them the health care and benefits we promised them when they put on our Nation's uniform.

It means we will have more qualified doctors and nurses to improve medical services to our veterans and to reduce waiting times for doctors' appointments. For veterans with traumatic brain injury, PTSD, mental health care issues and lost limbs, it means renewed hope to rebuild their lives.

For homeless veterans, it means the dignity of not having to live on the streets, and it means hope for the future. For veterans in rural areas and those who serve in the Guard and Reserves, this bill means needed care will be closer to home. For the 400,000 veterans, including combat wounded vets, who are having to wait far too long to have their benefits cases reviewed, it means over 11,000 new VA case workers to reduce the unacceptable delays in receiving earned benefits.

Mr. Chairman, before I mention some of the details of this bill, I want to express some much-deserved thanks. I want to begin with Chairman DAVE OBEY, the gentleman from Wisconsin, for his unwavering commitment and

strong leadership in seeing that America's veterans will receive a much-deserved historic increase in VA health care funding.

□ 1200

Our subcommittee's work simply would not have been possible had it not been for Chairman OBEY's personal and strong leadership.

Second, Speaker PELOSI made it clear from day one this year that keeping our promises to veterans would be the highest of priorities in this Congress. By working with Chairman OBEY, along with Budget Committee chairman JOHN SPRATT and VA chairman, Mr. FILNER, the Speaker made good on her word and millions of veterans will be the beneficiaries.

I want to extend a very personal, special salute and expression of thanks and gratitude to our subcommittee's ranking member, Mr. WICKER of Mississippi. He, a veteran, has had valuable input into this bill and has been a vital part of making this historic day for our veterans a reality. His leadership has been instrumental in crafting this legislation.

His ideas and strong support for our veterans our troops and their families have made this a much better bill, and at every step he and I have worked hard to continue a long, bipartisan tradition of working in behalf of our troops and our veterans, a tradition for which we have great respect.

Last, but certainly not least, is the professional, dedicated staff I want to thank, a staff that has worked together on a bipartisan basis to do what is right for our veterans and troops. I believe they deserve our thanks by name: Carol Murphy, Tim Peterson, Walter Hearne, Donna Shabaz, Mary Arnold, Liz Dawson, Dena Baron, Jamie Swafford, as well as John Conger from my staff and Susan Sweat from Mr. WICKER's office. They're a first-class team, and it's a privilege to work with them.

Let me mention a few specifics about the bill. Overall, the bill totals \$64.7 billion in discretionary spending. As I said, but it bears reemphasizing, it provides the largest increase in VA health care funding in the 77-year history of the Veterans Administration, \$6 billion more than fiscal year 2007.

For the first time in the 21-year history of the veterans independent budget, which is developed by AMVETS, the Disabled American Veterans, the Paralyzed Veterans of America and the Veterans of Foreign Wars, and supported by 52 other veterans and military organizations, this bill meets and actually even exceeds that independent budget request.

The Veterans Health Administration, which includes medical services, medical administration, medical facilities and medical research is funded at \$37.1 billion, \$2.5 billion more than the President's request and \$294 million above the veterans independent budget.

Compared to the administration's request, this bill provides a number of increases: \$604 million more for new initiatives in the area of mental health, including PTSD and for traumatic brain injury; \$71 million more for veterans substance abuse programs; \$23 million more to provide shelter for an additional 2,300 homeless veterans; \$12.5 million more to expand outpatient rehabilitation services for the blind; \$508 million more for medical facilities maintenance. That might not sound important to some. Its goal is to see that we never have a Walter Reed Annex 18 tragedy, like occurred in the Department of Defense health care system, happen in the VA health care system.

We also provide a minimum of \$15 million for joint programs with DOD to improve access to care, to ensure a more seamless transition for veterans going from the Department of Defense into the Veterans Administration system.

Mr. Chairman, the subcommittee heard from many sources about the need for more VA medical research, particularly in the areas of greatest impact for our Afghan and Iraq War veterans, research such as traumatic brain injury and mental health. That is why we significantly increased the VA research budget for the first time in the last 10 years.

The subcommittee also heard from many who talked about the need to increase funding for extended care facilities for elderly and severely disabled veterans. So we took action on a bipartisan basis, more than doubled the programs to allow four new facilities to be

built, as well as to address all currently identified life/safety needs at those facilities.

Let me be clear, Mr. Chairman, along with this historic level of increased funding, we intend to increase the subcommittee's bipartisan oversight of these taxpayer funded programs. Oversight is absolutely essential to ensure that the VA spends the money wisely and for the highest priority needs of our vets.

That's why this bill includes funding for the Office of Inspector General to hire 50 additional people. And it includes \$5 million to establish a toll-free telephone number and Web-page-based link that makes it easier for veterans to provide feedback on the quality of their health care. We want veterans receiving health care to be part of the system of checks and balances to improve the already first-class medical care veterans across America are receiving.

On the military construction side of this bill, the bill also strongly supports our active duty, Guard and Reserve servicemen and women and their families. The bill provides \$21.4 billion in military construction, family housing, and the Base Realignment and Closing program funding. This is \$207 million above the President's request and \$5.1 billion above fiscal year 2007.

This total funding level is unprecedented, largely due to three factors: BRAC, the proposal to increase the size of the Army and the Marine Corps, and the rebasing of troops from Germany and South Korea back to the United States.

We fully fund the President's request for BRAC at \$8.2 billion. We've also increased the subcommittee's oversight of the MILCON funding with new reprogramming and notification requirements, especially in the area of BRAC funding. We want to work together on a bipartisan basis to see that our military construction dollars go to the highest priority needs.

The bottom line in this bill is it honors the promises made to our troops, our veterans and their families with the health care and benefits they earned when they put on our Nation's uniform.

Military Construction - Veterans Affairs - and Related Agencies Appropriations Act - FY 2008 (H.R. 2642)
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2007 Enacted	FY 2008 Request	Bill	Bill vs. Enacted	Bill vs. Request
TITLE I - DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE					
Military construction, Army.....	2,017,321	4,039,197	4,070,959	+2,053,638	+31,762
Rescissions.....	-43,348	---	---	+43,348	---
Emergency appropriations (P.L. 110-28).....	1,255,890	---	---	-1,255,890	---
Emergency appropriations (P.L. 110-28). (By (transfer, Army Sec. 3309).....	(6,250)	---	---	(-6,250)	---
Total.....	3,229,863	4,039,197	4,070,959	+841,096	+31,762
Military construction, Navy and Marine Corps.....	1,130,821	2,104,276	2,125,138	+994,317	+20,862
Rescissions.....	-27,500	---	-5,862	+21,638	-5,862
Emergency appropriations (P.L. 110-28).....	370,990	---	---	-370,990	---
Total.....	1,474,311	2,104,276	2,119,276	+644,965	+15,000
Military construction, Air Force.....	1,083,000	912,109	927,428	-155,572	+15,319
Rescissions.....	-2,694	---	-5,319	-2,625	-5,319
Emergency appropriations (P.L. 110-28).....	43,300	---	---	-43,300	---
Total.....	1,123,606	912,109	922,109	-201,497	+10,000
Military construction, Defense-Wide.....	1,127,000	1,799,336	1,806,928	+679,928	+7,592
Rescissions.....	-110,229	---	-7,592	+102,637	-7,592
Total.....	1,016,771	1,799,336	1,799,336	+782,565	---
=====					
Total, Active components.....	6,844,551	8,854,918	8,911,680	+2,067,129	+56,762
Military construction, Army National Guard.....	473,000	404,291	439,291	-33,709	+35,000
Rescissions.....	-2,129	---	---	+2,129	---
Total.....	470,871	404,291	439,291	-31,580	+35,000
Military construction, Air National Guard.....	126,000	85,517	95,517	-30,483	+10,000
Military construction, Army Reserve.....	166,000	119,684	154,684	-11,316	+35,000
Military construction, Navy Reserve.....	43,000	59,150	69,150	+26,150	+10,000
Military construction, Air Force Reserve.....	45,000	26,559	39,628	-5,372	+13,069
Rescissions.....	---	---	-3,069	-3,069	-3,069
Total.....	45,000	26,559	36,559	-8,441	+10,000
=====					
Total, Reserve components.....	850,871	695,201	795,201	-55,670	+100,000
=====					
Total, Military construction.....	7,695,422	9,550,119	9,706,881	+2,011,459	+156,762
Appropriations.....	(6,211,142)	(9,550,119)	(9,728,723)	(+3,517,581)	(+178,604)
Rescissions.....	(-185,900)	---	(-21,842)	(+164,058)	(-21,842)
Emergency appropriations.....	(1,670,180)	---	---	(-1,670,180)	---
North Atlantic Treaty Organization Security Investment Program.....	204,789	201,400	201,400	-3,389	---
Family housing construction, Army.....	579,000	419,400	419,400	-159,600	---
Family housing operation and maintenance, Army.....	671,311	742,920	742,920	+71,609	---
Family housing construction, Navy and Marine Corps....	305,000	298,329	298,329	-6,671	---
Family housing operation and maintenance, Navy and Marine Corps.....	505,472	371,404	371,404	-134,068	---
Family housing construction, Air Force.....	1,168,000	362,747	362,747	-805,253	---
Rescissions.....	-18,000	---	---	+18,000	---
Total.....	1,150,000	362,747	362,747	-787,253	---
Family housing operation and maintenance, Air Force....	750,000	688,335	688,335	-61,665	---
Family housing construction, Defense-Wide.....	9,000	---	---	-9,000	---

Military Construction - Veterans Affairs - and Related Agencies Appropriations Act - FY 2008 (H.R. 2642)
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2007 Enacted	FY 2008 Request	Bill	Bill vs. Enacted	Bill vs. Request
Family housing operation and maintenance, Defense-Wide Department of Defense Family Housing Improvement Fund.....	49,000 2,475	48,848 500	48,848 500	-152 -1,975	---
Total, Family housing.....	4,021,258	2,932,483	2,932,483	-1,088,775	---
Appropriations.....	(4,039,258)	(2,932,483)	(2,932,483)	(-1,106,775)	---
Rescissions.....	(-18,000)	---	---	(+18,000)	---
Chemical demilitarization construction, Defense-Wide..	131,000	86,176	86,176	-44,824	---
Base realignment and closure:					
Base realignment and closure account, 1990.....	252,279	220,689	270,689	+18,410	+50,000
Base realignment and closure account, 2005.....	2,489,421	8,174,315	8,174,315	+5,684,894	---
Emergency appropriations (P.L. 110-28).....	3,136,802	---	---	-3,136,802	---
Total, Base realignment and closure.....	5,878,502	8,395,004	8,445,004	+2,566,502	+50,000
Appropriations.....	(2,741,700)	(8,395,004)	(8,445,004)	(+5,703,304)	(+50,000)
Emergency appropriations.....	(3,136,802)	---	---	(-3,136,802)	---
Total, title I.....	17,930,971	21,165,182	21,371,944	+3,440,973	+206,762
Appropriations.....	(13,327,889)	(21,165,182)	(21,393,786)	(+8,065,897)	(+228,604)
Rescissions.....	(-203,900)	---	(-21,842)	(+182,058)	(-21,842)
Emergency appropriations.....	(4,806,982)	---	---	(-4,806,982)	---
TITLE II - DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS					
Veterans Benefits Administration					
Compensation and pensions.....	38,007,095	41,236,322	41,236,322	+3,229,227	---
Readjustment benefits.....	3,262,006	3,300,289	3,300,289	+38,283	---
Veterans insurance and indemnities.....	49,850	41,250	41,250	-8,600	---
Veterans housing benefit program fund program account (indefinite).....	66,234	17,389	17,389	-48,845	---
(Limitation on direct loans).....	(500)	(500)	(500)	---	---
Credit subsidy.....	-100,000	-108,000	-108,000	-8,000	---
Administrative expenses.....	154,284	154,562	154,562	+278	---
Vocational rehabilitation loans program account.....	53	71	71	+18	---
(Limitation on direct loans).....	(4,242)	(3,287)	(3,287)	(-955)	---
Administrative expenses.....	305	311	311	+6	---
Native American veteran housing loan program account..	584	628	628	+44	---
(Limitation on direct loans).....	(30,000)	---	---	(-30,000)	---
Total, Veterans Benefits Administration.....	41,440,411	44,642,822	44,642,822	+3,202,411	---
Veterans Health Administration					
Medical services.....	25,518,254	27,167,671	28,906,400	+3,388,146	+1,738,729
Emergency appropriations (P.L. 110-28).....	466,778	---	---	-466,778	---
Medical administration.....	3,177,968	3,442,000	3,635,600	+457,632	+193,600
Emergency appropriations (P.L. 110-28).....	250,000	---	---	-250,000	---
Medical facilities.....	3,569,533	3,592,000	4,100,000	+530,467	+508,000
Emergency appropriations (P.L. 110-28).....	595,000	---	---	-595,000	---
Medical and prosthetic research.....	413,980	411,000	480,000	+66,020	+69,000
Emergency appropriations (P.L. 110-28).....	32,500	---	---	-32,500	---
Medical care cost recovery collections:					
Offsetting collections.....	-2,329,000	-2,414,000	-2,414,000	-85,000	---
Appropriations (indefinite).....	2,329,000	2,414,000	2,414,000	+85,000	---
Total, Veterans Health Administration.....	34,024,013	34,612,671	37,122,000	+3,097,987	+2,509,329
Appropriations.....	(32,679,735)	(34,612,671)	(37,122,000)	(+4,442,265)	(+2,509,329)
Emergency appropriations.....	(1,344,278)	---	---	(-1,344,278)	---
Departmental Administration					
General operating expenses.....	1,481,473	1,471,837	1,598,500	+117,027	+126,663
Emergency appropriations (P.L. 110-28).....	83,200	---	---	-83,200	---

Military Construction - Veterans Affairs - and Related Agencies Appropriations Act - FY 2008 (H.R. 2642)
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2007 Enacted	FY 2008 Request	Bill	Bill vs. Enacted	Bill vs. Request
Information technology systems.....	1,214,000	1,859,217	1,859,217	+645,217	---
Emergency appropriations (P.L. 110-28).....	35,100	---	---	-35,100	---
National Cemetery Administration.....	160,747	166,809	170,000	+9,253	+3,191
Office of Inspector General.....	70,641	72,599	76,500	+5,859	+3,901
Construction, major projects.....	399,000	727,400	1,410,800	+1,011,800	+683,400
Construction, minor projects.....	198,937	233,396	615,000	+416,063	+381,604
Emergency appropriations (P.L. 110-28).....	340,485	---	---	-340,485	---
Emergency appropriations (P.L. 110-28) (Rescission).....	-14,485	---	---	+14,485	---
Grants for construction of State extended care facilities.....	85,000	85,000	165,000	+80,000	+80,000
Grants for the construction of State veterans cemeteries.....	32,000	32,000	37,000	+5,000	+5,000
Total, Departmental Administration.....	4,086,098	4,648,258	5,932,017	+1,845,919	+1,283,759
Appropriations.....	(3,641,798)	(4,648,258)	(5,932,017)	(+2,290,219)	(+1,283,759)
Emergency appropriations.....	(458,785)	---	---	(-458,785)	---
Rescissions (emergency appropriations).....	(-14,485)	---	---	(+14,485)	---
=====	=====	=====	=====	=====	=====
Total, title II.....	79,550,522	83,903,751	87,696,839	+8,146,317	+3,793,088
Appropriations.....	(77,761,944)	(83,903,751)	(87,696,839)	(+9,934,895)	(+3,793,088)
Emergency appropriations.....	(1,803,063)	---	---	(-1,803,063)	---
Rescissions (emergency appropriations).....	(-14,485)	---	---	(+14,485)	---
(Limitation on direct loans).....	(34,742)	(3,787)	(3,787)	(-30,955)	---
=====	=====	=====	=====	=====	=====
Discretionary.....	38,265,337	39,416,501	43,209,589	+4,944,252	+3,793,088
Mandatory.....	41,285,185	44,487,250	44,487,250	+3,202,065	---
=====	=====	=====	=====	=====	=====
TITLE III - RELATED AGENCIES					
American Battle Monuments Commission					
Salaries and expenses.....	37,000	42,100	43,470	+6,470	+1,370
Foreign currency fluctuations account.....	5,000	11,000	11,000	+6,000	---
Total, American Battle Monuments Commission.....	42,000	53,100	54,470	+12,470	+1,370
U.S. Court of Appeals for Veterans Claims					
Salaries and expenses.....	20,189	21,217	21,397	+1,208	+180
Department of Defense - Civil					
Cemeterial Expenses, Army					
Salaries and expenses.....	30,000	26,892	30,592	+592	+3,700
Armed Forces Retirement Home					
Operation and maintenance.....	55,991	55,724	55,724	-267	---
Capital program.....	1,236	---	---	-1,236	---
General fund appropriation.....	---	5,900	800	+800	-5,100
Total, Armed Forces Retirement Home.....	57,227	61,624	56,524	-703	-5,100
=====	=====	=====	=====	=====	=====
Total, title III.....	149,416	162,833	162,983	+13,567	+150
Appropriations.....	(149,416)	(162,833)	(162,983)	(+13,567)	(+150)
=====	=====	=====	=====	=====	=====
Grand total.....	97,630,909	105,231,766	109,231,766	+11,600,857	+4,000,000
Appropriations.....	(91,239,249)	(105,231,766)	(109,253,608)	(+18,014,359)	(+4,021,842)
Rescissions.....	(-203,900)	---	(-21,842)	(+182,058)	(-21,842)
Emergency appropriations.....	(6,610,045)	---	---	(-6,610,045)	---
Rescissions (emergency appropriations).....	(-14,485)	---	---	(+14,485)	---

Military Construction - Veterans Affairs - and Related Agencies Appropriations Act - FY 2008 (H.R. 2642)
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2007 Enacted	FY 2008 Request	Bill	Bill vs. Enacted	Bill vs. Request

CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET RECAP					
Scorekeeping adjustments:					
Emergency appropriations defense.....	-4,806,982	---	---	+4,806,982	---
Emergency appropriations non-defense.....	-1,788,578	---	---	+1,788,578	---
ATB pay raise (Sec. 111 of P.L. 110-5) adjustment.	-925	---	---	+925	---
Total, adjustments.....	-6,596,485	---	---	+6,596,485	---
Total (including adjustments).....	91,034,424	105,231,766	109,231,766	+18,197,342	+4,000,000
Scorekeeping adjustments.....	(-6,596,485)	---	---	(+6,596,485)	---
Prior year outlays.....	---	---	---	---	---
	=====	=====	=====	=====	=====
Total mandatory and discretionary.....	91,034,424	105,231,766	109,231,766	+18,197,342	+4,000,000
Mandatory.....	(41,285,185)	(44,487,250)	(44,487,250)	(+3,202,065)	---
Mandatory (prior year).....	---	---	---	---	---
Mandatory (total).....	(41,285,185)	(44,487,250)	(44,487,250)	(+3,202,065)	---
Discretionary.....	(49,749,239)	(60,744,516)	(64,744,516)	(+14,995,277)	(+4,000,000)
Discretionary (prior year).....	---	---	---	---	---
Discretionary (total).....	(49,749,239)	(60,744,516)	(64,744,516)	(+14,995,277)	(+4,000,000)
	=====	=====	=====	=====	=====

Military Construction - Veterans Affairs - and Related Agencies Appropriations Act - FY 2008 (H.R. 2642)
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2007 Enacted	FY 2008 Request	Bill	Bill vs. Enacted	Bill vs. Request

RECAP BY FUNCTION					
Mandatory.....	41,285,185	44,487,250	44,487,250	+3,202,065	---
Prior year outlays.....	---	---	---	---	---
Total, Mandatory.....	41,285,185	44,487,250	44,487,250	+3,202,065	---

General purpose discretionary:					
Defense.....	13,123,989	21,165,182	21,371,944	+8,247,955	+206,762
Prior year outlays.....	---	---	---	---	---
Total, Defense.....	13,123,989	21,165,182	21,371,944	+8,247,955	+206,762
Nondefense.....	36,625,250	39,579,334	43,372,572	+6,747,322	+3,793,238
Prior year outlays.....	---	---	---	---	---
Total, Nondefense.....	36,625,250	39,579,334	43,372,572	+6,747,322	+3,793,238

Subtotal, General purpose discretionary.....	49,749,239	60,744,516	64,744,516	+14,995,277	+4,000,000
Prior year outlays.....	---	---	---	---	---
Total General purpose discretionary.....	49,749,239	60,744,516	64,744,516	+14,995,277	+4,000,000
=====					
Grand total, Mandatory and Discretionary.....	91,034,424	105,231,766	109,231,766	+18,197,342	+4,000,000
=====					
DISCRETIONARY 302B ALLOCATION					
GENERAL PURPOSE.....	49,749,239	60,744,516	64,744,516	+14,995,277	+4,000,000
302B ALLOCATION.....	---	---	---	---	---
OVER/UNDER.....	49,749,239	60,744,516	64,744,516	+14,995,277	+4,000,000

Mr. Chairman, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. WICKER. Mr. Chairman, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Chairman, I would like to begin the debate by thanking Chairman EDWARDS for all the hard work he's put into preparing this legislation. I congratulate him on his first bill as chairman of Military Construction-VA, and I appreciate his kind words made just a few moments ago. Mr. EDWARDS has continued the excellent bipartisan relationship that this subcommittee has enjoyed for years. The chairman held many, many hearings this spring, perhaps more hearings on the VA accounts than any previous subcommittee with jurisdiction over this issue.

Mr. EDWARDS has previously thanked our staff for their diligent work to prepare this bill and has mentioned them by name. I will thank them once again by name. They include Liz Dawson, Dena Baron, Jamie Swafford and Susan Sweat on the minority staff, and Carol Murphy, Walter Hearne, Tim Peterson, Donna Shabaz, Mary Arnold and John Conger on the majority staff. They have worked very hard on this measure, but their work is just beginning.

As most of us know by now, there's much left to do in conference on this bill. For the first time in the history of the subcommittee, for the first time since 1958, the military construction portion contains no specific recommendation for projects. While I remain disappointed that no projects were included in this appropriation, I am pleased that last night we reached an agreement that will restore the transparency and openness begun by the Republican majority in the last Congress with regard to earmarks in the remaining appropriations bills.

I want to make sure my colleagues understand that there is very little to the military construction portion of this bill. Unlike some appropriations bills, such as the Homeland bill we passed earlier today which include funding for specific agencies, offices and programs in addition to projects, the MILCON appropriation consists almost entirely of projects.

Pursuant to yesterday's agreement, specific detailed funding amounts for the following programs will have to wait until conference: Base Realignment and Closure needs; initiatives to restation 70,000 troops and their families from Europe and Korea to the United States; projects necessary for increasing the active duty Army by 65,000 and the Marine Corps by 27,000; relocating Marines from Okinawa to Japan; consolidating U.S. forces south of Seoul, South Korea; establishing enduring bases in Afghanistan and Djibouti; new runways, control towers, National Guard readiness centers, and projects in the Middle East or Afghanistan where we have soldiers in harm's way. All of these specific details will have to wait until conference, Mr. Chairman.

In addition, we know that quality-of-life issues are a priority for our mili-

tary; yet, no specific initiatives such as modernization of unaccompanied housing, construction of new medical facilities or much-needed child development centers, which we continuously heard in our hearings was the primary quality-of-life issue for our soldiers and their families, none of these are included in this bill.

Specific projects and earmarks will no doubt be included in the Senate version of this bill, and I hope Chairman EDWARDS and Chairman OBEY will work with Mr. LEWIS and me to make sure that House Members' initiatives will receive equal consideration at the conference level and are not disadvantaged by our airdropping of these projects into the conference. I would point out that the bill is different from other appropriations bills in that military construction projects have an added layer of examination, having already undergone scrutiny by the Department of Defense.

It is my hope that our colleagues will not offer amendments today that may decrease the military construction accounts. Though this bill today does not detail how these accounts will be used, the accounts will provide for many important military projects that our troops need.

Now, with regard to the VA portions of the bill, the VA is receiving the largest increase in the Department's history, an increase of \$6.7 billion over the last fiscal year level. All of us in this body are deeply grateful for the sacrifices and service our veterans have provided this Nation, and this generous increase is appreciated by Members on both sides of the aisle. We do have concerns about the VA's ability to absorb so large a funding increase in one fiscal year. We are determined to work with VA officials in this effort as part of our oversight responsibilities.

The bulk of the increase is going to boost medical services, medical facilities and construction for the VA. The bill increases the VA's discretionary funding by more than 18 percent over the fiscal year 2007 level. It is important to remember that the increase in this bill is in addition to the \$1.8 billion this Congress just provided to the VA in the supplemental. When considered together, the supplemental funding and the funding in this bill amount to a 23 percent increase for the Department of Veterans Affairs' discretionary accounts.

Chairman EDWARDS has indicated that we will be conducting oversight hearings later in the year, and I'm glad to know that. Hearings will be needed to ensure that the funding we have provided actually gets to the veterans and does not languish in an administrative account. Mr. Chairman, we all want to make sure our veterans receive the care they deserve, but we will have to be diligent in our oversight in order to get this funding where it is intended, to our veterans.

The President has indicated he will sign this bill even though it exceeds his

budget request by some \$4 billion. However, he has stated that offsets for these increases should be found in other appropriations bills. I agree with him, and I call upon my colleagues across the aisle to work with us and find these savings elsewhere.

I think it is important to point out that, though we have some concerns on our side of the aisle about the feasibility for this large 1-year increase, it has been in large part Republicans that have a track record of meeting veterans' needs. During the period of Republican majority from 1995 to 2007, VA funding increased by 96 percent from \$38.2 billion to \$74.5 billion. I would point out that in the final decade of the last Democratic majority, veterans funding increased by less than half as much, about 42 percent, Mr. Chairman.

Similarly, Republicans led the way to increase spending per veteran by over \$1,800 when we held the majority, while the Democrats managed to increase per-veteran spending by \$411 during a similar period of their majority. It was also a Republican Congress that passed the Veterans Health Care Eligibility Reform Act of 1996, which expanded eligibility for millions more veterans to access VA health care.

I point out these things to make sure my colleagues understand the historical record on veterans' issues. And in truth, Mr. Chairman, funding for our veterans has always been a bipartisan issue.

I support the bill on the floor today. It continues in the bipartisan tradition. It's not a perfect bill in my opinion, but our subcommittee has a good work product, and I'm proud of the combined efforts of Republicans and Democrats to continue the longstanding tradition of support and commitment for the men and women who have served our great country.

Mr. Chairman, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. EDWARDS. Mr. Chairman, I yield 6 minutes to the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. OBEY), the chairman of the Appropriations Committee, absolutely the vital leader to see that we have this historic increase for veterans health care in this budget today.

□ 1215

Mr. OBEY. I thank the gentleman.

Mr. Chairman, as we all know, we have been mired in a god-awful war in Iraq for almost 5 years. What bothers me most about it, except for the deaths that occur on a daily basis, what bothers me most about it is that there is virtually no sense of shared sacrifice in this country in dealing with that war.

The only people who are being asked to sacrifice are military families, and they are being asked to sacrifice again and again and again. They are being sent back to Iraq and to Afghanistan again, again, and again. Not much sacrifice is being asked of anybody else.

We hear politicians prattle about the need to stand behind the troops. You betcha, we certainly should.

But we need to stand behind the troops not just when the bands are playing. We need to stand by those troops when they come home, and they are injured, and they are sick, or they may have lost their job, or they may have lost their spouse; and that's what this bill tries to do.

I think we need to put in context how we got here. It has been a struggle to see to it that we have adequate funding in veterans medical care programs.

Two years ago, on this side of the aisle, we were given information from people within the Veterans Administration that their veterans health care budget was going to fall \$2 billion short. We tried to put that money in the budget. We were then in the minority. We were blocked by the majority then, except for one fellow. The Republican chairman of the Veterans' Committee sided with us, he agreed with us that we needed that \$2 billion in additional money.

What happened to him? Not only did the then-majority party leadership fire him as chairman, they took him completely off the committee because he told the truth. We finally got that money, but we had to get a double hernia to finally pry that money out of the administration.

Then we had, as you know, the budget process collapse last year, and no domestic appropriation bills were passed by the then-majority party. In fact, this very bill, the Military Construction bill, was held up in the Senate by two Members of the Republican Party who put a hold on it because they didn't like certain earmarks that were on the bill.

So the bill never passed. When we took the majority, the very first thing we did was to make veterans health care a number one priority, and we added over \$4 billion to that account, made it the number one priority. Then we added additional funding of over \$3 billion in the Iraqi supplemental, and now we have added this money today to make this the largest increase for veterans health care in the history of the country.

When we did that, the White House announced it was going to veto the bill. Now, finally, they have had a St. Paul conversion on the road to Damascus. I welcome the White House on board the bandwagon.

But as Golda Meir said to Anwar Sadat when he finally came to Jerusalem a long time ago: "What took you so long?" I am glad the President has finally changed his view.

But the President continues to say, "Well, now, I may not veto the bill, but you have got to have offsets. You have to find compensating savings."

Why do we single veterans out for that requirement? There were no offsets that the President required when he decided that this year we were going to spend \$57 billion to provide tax cuts to people who make over \$1 million a year and pay for it all with borrowed money. No offsets around then. Do you

see them? I don't see any offsets in sight for that.

So what do we get? Finally, we get grudging acceptance from the White House that after they stuck us in this miserable war, and after they sit there with no clue about how to get out, at least they are now grudgingly going to recognize that we need the funds in this bill to deal with veterans medical care.

This bill ought to pass unanimously. It is far past the time that we put our votes where our mouths are in terms of long-term funding for veterans health care. I am proud of the fact that I provided the allocation to the subcommittee so that they could do that.

We are taking funding from \$49.7 billion last year to \$64 billion this year. Now, green eyeshade people may say, "Oh, that's too much." You know what? In my view, nothing is too much for people who have risked everything on behalf of this country. Finally, over the last 2 years, we have been able to get funding up to begin to meet our obligations in this area.

I want to congratulate the gentleman from Texas for helping to lead the way, and I want to express my appreciation to people on both sides of the aisle who stood up for veterans when it was tough, including Mr. SMITH of New Jersey, the former Republican chairman of the Veterans' Affairs Committee, who paid a high price for his dedication to the needs of veterans, who paid a high price for putting truth ahead of the partisan wishes of the Bush administration.

Mr. WICKER. Mr. Chairman, I yield to my friend from Indiana, the former chairman of the Veterans' Affairs Committee, Mr. BUYER, for as much time as he may consume.

Mr. BUYER. Mr. Chairman, I was sitting here, and I enjoyed the comments of the Chair of the subcommittee, Mr. EDWARDS, and the comments of Mr. WICKER, and then I was disturbed by the comments of Mr. OBEY.

Mr. Chairman, what I would say is he didn't go back far enough. I came here in 1992, and I heard the horror stories of what was occurring in the Appropriations Committee of how individuals would cut veterans programs to fund WIC and other programs. I was deeply disturbed by that.

Then I would watch as the Clinton years would flatten VA spending. I guess the gentleman forgot about that too.

I want to associate myself with Mr. EDWARDS' comments and Mr. WICKER's comments because this is a bipartisan issue, and I am deeply disturbed about Mr. OBEY's comments to try to rewrite history here. Some of the language, inflammatory language, that he used is deeply disturbing to me.

Now, if the gentleman wants to talk about his issues and how he feels about the war, that's one thing; but don't allow those emotions to bleed into how we care for America's veterans. That bothers me.

We talk about how we got here. I recall the movie "Born on the 4th of July." What did they depict in the movie "Born on the 4th of July"? They depicted a VA system which bothered many people here in Congress. It was then Ken Keyser who worked for the Clinton administration who then thought that the best way we could improve our VA system is to move more people into the system. They set forth the priorities, but then they opened the system to the nondisabled systems.

When we opened that, we didn't really prepare the system for the number of veterans that came into the system. When I looked back here over the last 6 years, my gosh, we have almost doubled the veterans budget.

We also, as we are coping with dealing with the influx of veterans based on eligibility reform, I almost feel like, on the Veterans' Affairs Committee on a bipartisan basis, we are mechanics looking at different subsets of systems within the VA that need a tremendous amount of work.

It's easy for us to always talk about the health side, but there is such a strong disability backlog too. If it were just money, if we could just throw money on it, and that's what would solve it, Mr. EDWARDS, if that's what you could put in the budget, it would be solved. The reality is that's not what's going to solve it. What's going to solve it will be management practices and accountability. If we don't have that, it's not going to be solved.

The chairman of the committee is now on the floor. When he held a roundtable discussion, he learned that they were giving exams to those who are the case workers out there. When you get only 23 and 27 percent pass rate by the individuals who are actually working on these disability claims, I would say we've got a problem and we have to work cooperatively on those problems.

I want to thank the new majority. I want thank the new majority because you are different from the old majority.

The old majority, when I came here a freshman, and I was in the minority, because that old majority did things a little differently, and those weren't good budgets on behalf of veterans. But when you came now in the new majority, Mr. EDWARDS, I congratulate you, because you have done what you said you were going to do. I want to personally thank you for that.

But I just want you to know this, Mr. EDWARDS, there is much work for all of us, because it's not going to be just money alone.

When Mr. OBEY brought up the issue about the funding shortfall, what I did is I went in and I began to examine the finance modeling and found the errors in the inputs in the stale data in the model, and that's how we made the corrections. So even though we put in the \$1.5 billion, we only spent a third of that, and the other went for carryover.

So there's going to be a lot of management issues, and there's going to be

a lot of oversight that we going to have to continue to do. But as a baseline, let me congratulate you, Mr. EDWARDS and Mr. WICKER, on a very good bill.

Mr. EDWARDS. Mr. Chairman, I yield myself 1½ minutes.

Let me just take 30 seconds of that and say I thank Mr. BUYER, former chairman of the VA Committee, for emphasizing our work for veterans isn't done when this bill passes. There is a lot of oversight that needs to be done, and we will be working on that on a bipartisan basis.

But let me say I am proud of the new congressional leadership in providing \$6 billion increase over 2007 for VA health care, because you can't repair VA hospitals without funding. You can't hire 1,100 new case workers to reduce the intolerable delay of combat-wounded veterans to get their benefits without money.

Money is a necessary, perhaps not sufficient, solution but absolutely necessary to provide the veterans health care and benefits that they have earned by sacrificing for our country.

Mr. Chairman, I yield the balance of my time to Mr. OBEY.

Mr. OBEY. Mr. Chairman, the gentleman who just spoke has expressed a certain degree of unhappiness with the remarks that I made previously on the floor. I treasure his unhappiness.

The fact is that when Harry Truman was President, he was out giving a speech one day, and someone in the crowd hollered, "Give 'em hell, Harry!" And Truman responded, "I don't give them hell. I just tell the truth and they think it's hell."

The fact is, I am very comfortable with the fact that the previous speaker did not like my comments, because I think maybe that means they hit home. The fact is the previous speaker was the person who was selected by the then Republican Party leadership to replace Mr. Smith after Mr. Smith was, in essence, fired from his job by the majority because he told the truth about the VA health care needs.

So I will be happy to endure the unhappiness of the gentleman with my comments anytime if we can use that unhappiness to get more money for people who sacrificed everything for this country.

Mr. WICKER. Mr. Chairman, I yield 3 minutes to my friend from Florida (Mr. YOUNG).

Mr. YOUNG of Florida. Mr. Chairman, I thank the gentleman for yielding to me, and I want to say that I am very, very proud to be working with Chairman EDWARDS and Ranking Member WICKER as a member of this very important subcommittee.

The Department of Veterans Affairs is going to have much more responsibility as the months go by, probably more than they realize. One of the reasons is that military medicine has gotten so much better. Medicines are better, medical techniques are better, the ability to evacuate a wounded soldier from the battlefield is much better,

and we have intensive care units on our aircraft today so better medical care can be provided to the wounded soldier, marine, and the wounded heroes.

□ 1230

Because of that many of our heroes are living today who would have died in previous wars and previous battles. But also because of that some of them are hurt worse than normal, and the Veterans' Administration is going to eventually have the responsibility once these heroes leave their military medical facilities at Walter Reed or at Bethesda or some of the other military hospitals.

One of the things that this bill does, and it does a lot of good stuff, and I'm strongly in support of this bill, it increases funding for the Inspector General for the Department of Veterans Affairs. And I know that oftentimes we think that the Inspector General just looks at dollars and figures and decides if the money is being spent or accounted for.

The Inspector General from the Department of Veterans Affairs does a really great job, not only in doing that, checking the dollars, but also in checking for fraud. And it is amazing how much fraud the IG has uncovered in the last couple of years, costing upwards of hundred of millions of dollars to the taxpayer, and taking it away from the veteran who needs it and the hospitals and the medical professionals who need this money to care for the veterans.

But also, another part of their responsibility is the care that the veteran receives in the VA hospitals. They look at this very closely, and if and when the medical care in the hospital is not appropriate and not proper, they report this to the proper authorities.

The investment that Chairman EDWARDS has made in the Inspector General's Office in this bill will pay us back many, many times over in what they recover than we have invested. So this is a good bill.

If you wanted me to pick out something that I didn't like about it, I'm sure that I could. But the part that relates to the Department of Veterans Affairs, this is a good bill, and it deserves our support.

Mr. EDWARDS. Mr. Chairman, let me just first say that there's no Member of Congress who's spent more time visiting our wounded troops in the hospitals or at our veterans hospitals than Mr. YOUNG and his wife, Beverly; and he and his wife are an inspiration to all Members of Congress as we try to work together in support of our troops and our veterans. And I thank you, sir, for your heartfelt and deep commitment to our troops and our veterans and their health.

Mr. Chairman, I'd like to yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from California (Mr. FILNER). Mr. FILNER is not only the Chairman of the Veterans' Affairs Committee in the House, he has been a tremendous champion this year in fighting to see that we received \$11.9

billion increase in funding for veterans since January.

Mr. FILNER. Mr. Chairman, I thank the committee for doing so much for veterans in this bill. And I want to add my thanks to Congressman YOUNG from Florida. He and his wife, Beverly, have been an incredible inspiration. So we want to say on the record from our side of the aisle how much we appreciate you and your wife's efforts on behalf of our veterans. Thank you.

Mr. Chairman, what this bill does and what our previous bills that we have passed here, the continuing resolution that we've had for this year, the supplemental for the war, added more than 30 percent to the health care budget from last year for the health care of our veterans. That's an unprecedented increase, and it comes at a time when we have unprecedented needs. So your work, Mr. Chairman, has been incredible for all of the veterans and their families in this Nation.

No matter where we stand on the war, and there's a lot of divisiveness in this House about the war, we are united in saying, through this bill, that when every young man and woman comes back from Iraq or Afghanistan, they are going to get all the love, the care, the attention, the dignity, the honor that a Nation can bestow; and we are committed to that.

And we are committed, not only to those veterans who are just coming back, but to those who are with us from World War II, from Korea, from Vietnam, from the first Persian Gulf war. We're going to take care of them all.

We do not think that the problem with the Veterans' Administration is that there are too many veterans. We think we have to get the resources into the VA, and then have the accountability that it's spent wisely.

We have an administration that says, support the troops, support the troops, support the troops; but when they come home, as we have seen in Walter Reed and other places, too many times they're on their own. They slip through the cracks.

Virtually everyone who comes back from this war has evidence of either brain injury or PTSD, Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder, and we simply don't have the resources to treat them. There are waiting lists. There are people told to call back, go home.

We had a young Marine in Minnesota who went to his hospital because he thought he had PTSD because he was thinking of suicide. What happened? He was told he was 28th on the waiting list, to go home. And he went home and committed suicide. That is a crime and we are not going to commit those crimes on our returning heroes. We are going to look at not only the brain injuries, not only the PTSD, but to make sure the backlog of pension disability claims is taken down to zero, where it's now at 600,000.

We've got a lot of work to do. We've got a lot of work to handle all these heroes from World War II to the present,

and with your budget, Mr. Chairman, we're going to be able to do this. We thank you. And we're going to work to get the accountability and the work done that lets these heroes know that their Nation is worthy of their sacrifice.

Mr. WICKER. Before I yield to my friend from Indiana, I too want to join my colleagues in commending my friend from Florida, BILL YOUNG, and his wife, Beverly, for constantly, consistently visiting our veterans, our wounded veterans at Walter Reed and Bethesda and at veterans facilities, and for day in and day out and week in and week out and year in and year out, being as supportive of our Nation's veterans as any couple probably in the entire United States.

Mr. Chairman, I yield to my friend from Indiana (Mr. BUYER) an additional minute.

Mr. BUYER. Picking up off the comment that Mr. EDWARDS had made in his opening statement about management, I think you're right on point. Good management of the resources and accountability is what's essential.

So when the chairman just spoke in the well and said, well, we don't have the money, that's not entirely correct because the GAO came back in 2005 and 2006 and said, we gave them sufficient resources allocated toward mental health, but they didn't even spend around \$60 million that you had already given them in those cycles.

Mr. EDWARDS, you worked on those budgets. So it's not just giving them the money; that was my point made earlier.

So when Mr. FILNER made the comment, they don't have the money; we had given them the money, then they didn't utilize it. And so I agree with Mr. FILNER when he gets his angst about how it is that you don't spend money we gave you, yet you've got waiting lines.

It goes back then to the management question about the resources in which we get them, and that's where I'd like to work with you and work with the chairman of the committee.

Mr. EDWARDS. Mr. Chairman, let me just take 1 minute, if I could, to respond.

Again, I would reemphasize, we must work closely together in Congress to see that the VA spends the money we appropriate for them and for our veterans, that they spend it wisely, effectively and efficiently. And we will work very hard on that.

But I don't want it to go unsaid that the VA needs and our veterans deserve the additional funding, the \$6 billion more for VA health care spending, \$6.7 billion more than last year for all veterans programs. The VA and our veterans need and deserve that money. The increased funding in this budget, that I'm proud to say the new Congress has made its top priority, is something that is needed, not only to provide better benefits, reduce waiting times for benefit consideration, reduce waiting

time for doctors appointments, improve mental health care services and PTSD services for our veterans, this money is needed to improve the, frankly, unsafe conditions at some VA hospitals. And construction projects are needed there, so the money is needed. We'll work together on the management and oversight.

Mr. Chairman, I yield 2 minutes to the gentlelady from Kansas (Mrs. BOYDA). Mrs. BOYDA has been a leading and tireless voice in this Congress, supporting full BRAC funding in this bill, as well as the veterans funding in this bill.

Mrs. BOYDA of Kansas. Mr. Chairman, I'd just like to share a couple of freshman stories here. I am one of the new kids. And when I campaigned, I actually campaigned for 3 years. And you can imagine what I heard about veterans issues. It was about access mainly.

Our veterans hospitals in Kansas are good, but they only had a certain amount of money, and getting access, waiting times, waiting lines was just a tremendous problem.

So when I got here, I went to Chairman FILNER's office with a little bit of a chip on my shoulder, and I said, listen, I need to know what we're going to do for veterans, what's going to happen. And listen, I want to know the truth. Don't tell me something. Don't let me go home to Kansas and then come back and not be truthful.

He said, Mrs. BOYDA, we are going to take care of our veterans.

And then when we did our first continuing resolution and put \$3.5 billion immediately into that pipeline, I heard something that I just absolutely couldn't believe, and that was someone who said, that's just a down payment. So I actually began to have faith that people in Congress do what they promise to do.

Let me tell you another quick story, too, and that was when I spoke with Chairman EDWARDS and he was telling me about what was going on, because I have been a tireless advocate for this. He said, Nancy, we're going to get this done, and we are going to do an historic funding for this, and we're going to get that done by June.

And then the next thing we're going to do is spend the next 6 months on oversight because we have to make sure that those funds are used in a way that makes a difference to our veterans, and we have to make sure that every cent of that that we have appropriated we can do the best we can to make sure that those funds are used appropriately.

So I am thrilled to be here with the new Democratic majority that is keeping its word to veterans, and saying that we're not only funding, but I believe that we will go and do the oversight that's needed to make sure those funds are used for the best benefit of our veterans.

Thank you so much, Mr. Chairman, for your leadership.

Mr. EDWARDS. Mr. Chairman, I yield myself 2 minutes. And I will yield

to Speaker PELOSI for the remainder of the time that I don't use of this 2 minutes.

For the record, Mr. Chairman, I'd like to read into that record what a number of America's most respected veterans and military organizations have said about this bill.

The American Legion called it "an impressive commitment to this Nation's servicemembers, veterans and their families."

The Independent Budget, made up of numerous veterans organizations across the country, said, "This is a much-needed investment in health care and the benefits delivery system for our Nation's sick and disabled veterans."

The Military Officers Association of America referred to the funding in this bill as "an extraordinary level of funding."

AMVETS, "The level of funding will ensure that returning veterans from Iraq and Afghanistan will continue to receive priority health care and other VA services."

The Disabled American Veterans called it "keeping faith with America's veterans."

Mr. Chairman, several years ago, then Minority Leader PELOSI made a commitment to America's veterans, she said, if she became Speaker, that supporting those who have sacrificed for our country in uniform would be the highest priority of hers and of this Congress. Speaker PELOSI has kept that commitment. And the beneficiaries of that promise kept will be millions of veterans who will receive better health care, who will receive better job training, better homeless care for those 200,000 veterans that tonight, in America, will go to bed without a roof over their heads.

We would not be here today, about to pass the largest increase in VA health care spending in the 77-year history of the Veterans Administration, had it not been for Speaker PELOSI's personal commitment at the Budget Committee level, at the 302(b) allocation level for our subcommittee and specifically pushing this legislation. I salute her, along with the veterans organizations of America, for her leadership on behalf of our veterans, our servicemen and -women, and their families.

Mr. Chairman, I yield the balance of my time to Speaker PELOSI.

Ms. PELOSI. Mr. Chairman, I thank the gentleman for his kind words and for his more than extraordinary leadership on behalf of America's veterans while they are in the service, in terms of the quality of their life which is addressed in this legislation, and when they become veterans, and how he has had the well-being of America's veterans as a priority for so long in his political year.

Mr. Chairman, today is probably one of the top three happiest days of my official life, because today is a day where, under the leadership of Mr. EDWARDS, Mr. SPRATT, Mr. OBEY, Mr.

SKELTON, Mr. MURTHA, this Congress of the United States is able to keep its promises to America's veterans. It's a day of respect for them.

In the military, soldiers say, we will not leave any soldier on the battlefield. We say, when they come home, we will not leave any veteran behind. That is why, under the leadership of Mr. EDWARDS in his capacity as a leader on this issue, and I will add Mr. FILNER's name to those I'm commending, but a person of the focus and values of Mr. EDWARDS kept this issue front and center.

For the past 4½, 5 years, we have met on a regular basis with the veterans organizations and representatives of veterans from across the country. We asked them what their priorities were, because their needs were so great; and frankly, their concerns were so neglected for the last few years that we said, we cannot try to do everything. What are your priorities? This was when we were in the minority.

Their first priority, the first couple of years there was the concurrent receipt issue, this veterans disability tax, which we made some progress on. And the next term, which was the last term, we were still in the minority. We still took a piece of what their agenda was, and that was survivors' benefits. All of these were important to the veterans, but there were many more concerns that we had.

So it wasn't until the Democrats assumed the majority that we could keep the promise of America to America's veterans. That's why it was so thrilling to be with the representatives of the veterans groups, some of them I will name, the American Legion, the Veterans of Foreign Wars, the Disabled Veterans of America, the Paralyzed Veterans of America, AMVETS, that's the American Veterans, then the Iraq and Afghan Veterans of America, to be with them and other representatives of veterans a couple of days ago when we stood in front of the Capitol and announced that today, with this vote, under Chairman CHET EDWARDS' leadership, we would be giving the largest increase in the history of our country and in the 77-year history of the Veterans Administration.

Why is that necessary? Because there is a backlog of several hundred thousand cases at the VA. That's an injustice. That's an immorality. And there were needed more case workers to address a 2-year backlog, if you had an issue, you went there and you had to wait 2 years if you were a veteran.

Well, the veterans were there when they were needed. They heeded the call. They came to our defense, and now we're saying, wait 2 years for us to consider your case. Just not right. Just not right.

So in preparation for a possible Democratic majority where we could work in a bipartisan way, the veterans put together a budget, again emphasizing their priorities.

□ 1245

And when they did, we took that budget. Congress worked its will on it through the appropriations process to bring us to the floor today. Every one of us in the committee, it was a bipartisan unanimous vote, 56-0, in the Appropriations Committee.

I hope we will have a similar vote today because, as Mr. EDWARDS said, starting with the budget process under Mr. SPRATT to the larger Appropriations Committee under Chairman OBEY and now to this moment on the floor under Chairman EDWARDS' leadership, we were able to give the biggest possible bipartisan vote to this increase. And it is paid for.

When Democrats took control of the House, we instituted pay-as-you-go, no new deficit spending, no increase to the deficit. So that is why this is especially, especially, important because this says that even within the constraints, those budgetary constraints, veterans aren't the priority. In our budget the two leading priorities were America's children and America's veterans. In the appropriations process, we are able to honor that blueprint set forth in the budget again without adding to the deficit, without increasing the deficit. That makes it harder, but that signaled in a very important way that when we talk about our priorities and we say that veterans are in the forefront of them, they are in the lead in terms of the values that we have, a reflection of America's values that, even though there are difficult budgetary constraints, veterans come first.

This is an issue in urban America. It is a big issue in rural America. In rural America, 75 percent of the people know somebody closely who is serving or has served in Iraq and Afghanistan, and everybody in our country knows many people who have served in the military. Four of my brothers served in the military.

We all have a dedication to our veterans. It is more than, though, just talking about it. We had to act upon those words, act upon those values. And I thank Chairman CHET EDWARDS for giving us that opportunity today to reward our heroes with something that we are giving to them. It is something that they deserve, have been deprived of, but that has come to an end.

So I hope we have a unanimous vote on this to show the bipartisan support for veterans that I know exists in our Congress. I am just very, very proud that we were able to deliver on the promise once we took the majority of the House.

Mr. WICKER. Mr. Chairman, may I inquire as to how much time remains.

The CHAIRMAN. The gentleman from Mississippi has 11½ minutes remaining, and the time of the gentleman from Texas has expired.

Mr. WICKER. Clearly we are nearing the end of this general debate, and I would at this point yield 1 minute to my friend from Indiana (Mr. BUYER).

Mr. BUYER. Mr. Chairman, the only thing I would note, as I listened to the

Speaker speak in the well, is that when the Republicans presented their budget proposal as an alternative, we spent \$8 billion more than the majority in the 10-year scope, actually in the 5-year budget plan, \$8 billion more. And we did it without increasing taxes.

So what everybody needs to understand here is, yes, we are increasing money here to veterans, but these are also the very same veterans which are about to be taxed.

Mr. WICKER. Mr. Chairman, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Just in closing, the Speaker of the House just said what a happy day this is for her. It is a happy day for me and for Members on this side of the aisle also, Mr. Chairman.

Why on a bipartisan issue do we have to sound so partisan sometimes in supporting the bill?

The Speaker mentioned that veterans funding had been so neglected for the past few years. I will again point out to Members of the House, Mr. Chairman, that during the period of Republican majority, in working with our friends across the aisle and funding VA, we increased funding by 96 percent during that period, from \$38.2 billion annually to \$74.5 billion. And during the final decades of the Democratic majority, the increase was only half that much.

The Speaker mentioned the concurrent receipt issue. Of course it was during the speakership of Speaker HASTERT that the House of Representatives enacted concurrent receipt legislation. And as a matter of fact, the previous speaker, Mr. BUYER, was the author and prime mover behind that legislation, and he deserves credit.

The point is this is a bipartisan issue. There is bipartisan support. I expect after discussion of a few amendments, Mr. Chairman, that we will have a near unanimous vote in favor of this bill. I will certainly be voting for it, as will the leadership of the Appropriations Committee.

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Chairman, I rise today in support of H.R. 2642, the Fiscal Year 2008 Military Construction and Veterans Affairs Appropriations Act. This bill includes many provisions critical to improving the quality of life for our fighting men and women as well as providing long-awaited and substantial increases in funding for veterans services. We continue our important commitment to veterans and servicemembers in this bill.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank Chairman EDWARDS and Ranking Member WICKER for the work that they and their staff members have done to include within this bill provisions important to the people of Guam; to servicemembers who serve on Guam, and veterans living on Guam. The work of committee leadership ensures that this Congress will make a meaningful positive impact on our Armed Forces.

The appropriations bill continues Congress's strong support of the military build-up on Guam. The strategic importance of Guam cannot be understated. Guam allows the United States Armed Forces to maintain a strong presence in the Pacific region. The bill goes a

long way to improving critical infrastructure on Guam that is necessary for the build-up to be successful.

To that end, the bill fully funds \$345 million in military construction projects. The bill provides for full funding of several key infrastructure projects for the Navy from improving electrical system security to repairing and upgrading a wastewater treatment plant. The bill also fully funds the critical Kilo Wharf upgrade project. The \$101 million project is strategically critical to United States Naval forces as it is the only dedicated ammunition wharf in the Western Pacific Region.

Important quality of life issues for servicemembers on Guam are also included. The bill fully funds \$45 million for upgrades to the Naval Base Fitness Center. Funds for this project meet Chief of Naval Forces Admiral Mike Mullen's commitment to improving the quality of life for all Naval forces. It also fully funds \$57 million in upgrades to degraded housing on Naval Base Guam. The need for adequate housing facilities is more prescient, as more and more Naval vessels use the base as maintenance and supply center.

I also applaud the Committee's efforts in including report language that directs the Department of Veterans Affairs to report on its plans for activation of 29 previously funded Community-Based Outpatient Clinics. Guam is one of the 29 clinics that is awaiting activation. I am deeply concerned that the Department of Veterans Affairs is not providing the veterans on Guam with the quality care that they deserve for their sacrifices to our great nation. The report language answers the concerns that I have expressed to the Department on multiple occasions. I look forward to hearing the Department's plan for activation of the clinic on Guam.

Mrs. CHRISTENSEN. Mr. Chairman, I am so proud of what we are doing on behalf of our veterans today and so I rise in strong support of the Military Construction & Veterans Affairs Appropriations bill.

In addition to the increase in funding—the largest increase in the entire 77-year history of the Veterans Administration—there are many provisions here that will help the over 6,000 veterans of the U.S. Virgin Islands.

Just last week as I was traveling back to Washington, one veteran complained that he was getting no response on his disability claim. I have many other open cases in my office. This bill will reduce the backlog and make good on the promise to take care of any injury related to their military service.

There is a major increase in health care funding, and I will work to ensure that some of it is used to make health care more accessible to Virgin Islands veterans. I also hope we can address the increased reimbursement for travel to and from care. Our veterans have to travel over water and by airplane to get VA provided care. The costs to them and the family member who may have to accompany them is a great burden they should not have to bear.

This bill has many other important provisions, but I only want to highlight one other which is of great concern to me as a physician, and that is the funding for programs to address Post Traumatic Stress Disorder and the other mental health needs of returning men and women of our Armed forces. This is a vital need.

We in the Virgin Islands were able to help our first responders after 9/11 and we want to

do more to help our soldiers transition safely and fully from the din and stress of war back to peacetime. This bill will help us do that.

I want to commend our Speaker for her determination to lead this House and to keep our promise to the men and women who have kept theirs to us—our veterans. I also applaud Chairman CHET EDWARDS on shepherding this landmark bill to final passage, and Chairmen DAVID OBEY and JOHN SPRATT for setting the stage to make this victory for all Americans possible.

Mr. LARSON of Connecticut. Mr. Chairman, I rise in strong support of H.R. 2642, the Military Construction and Veterans Affairs Appropriations Act for fiscal year 2008, the annual spending bill for military construction and veterans' programs.

Today, the House is considering a bill that would appropriate \$109.2 billion, with \$64.7 billion in discretionary spending for military construction and veterans' programs, which is \$4 billion more than the President's fiscal year 2008 budget request. The bill would provide \$43.2 billion for the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA), which is \$6.7 billion above 2007 and \$3.8 billion over the President's request for veterans' medical care, claims processing personnel, and facility improvements. This includes \$28.9 billion in funding to improve access to medical services for all veterans, which is \$1.7 billion above the President's request. This legislation also defeats the President's ill-advised proposals to nearly double co-pays for prescription drugs for veterans and to increase TRICARE premiums by over \$1,000 a year for military retirees.

The military health care system is understaffed and drowning in a backlog of cases and unable to provide our veterans with the benefits and resources they sacrificed a great deal to earn. In an effort to reduce the 400,000 claim backlog, the bill also includes \$1.6 billion in funding to enable the VA to hire over 1100 more claims processors. This legislation is the largest single increase in the 77-year history of the VA and for the first time in 21 years that the House has exceeded the request of the veterans' Independent Budget.

There are over 251,000 veterans living in Connecticut and I am pleased the 110th Congress has made funding our Nation's military health care system a top priority. Since the previous Congress adjourned without passing a budget, the new Congress passed a Continuing Appropriations Resolution (P.L. 110-5) that provided \$3.4 billion over the fiscal year 2006 funding level to fund the VA in fiscal year 2007. In addition, the Supplemental Appropriations Act (P.L. 110-28) added \$1.8 billion directly targeted at the needs of veterans returning from Iraq and Afghanistan. Part of the cost of war is to care for our servicemen and women when they return home and Congress has an obligation to ensure they receive appropriate care.

I applaud the leadership of Mr. EDWARDS, chairman of the House Appropriations Subcommittee on Military Construction and Veterans Affairs, and Mr. OBEY, chairman of the House Appropriations Committee, and the members of the committee for their efforts and continued commitment to our Nation's veterans. Today's legislation takes us one step further in providing our veterans with the best health care and resources our country can provide and I encourage my colleagues to join me in voting for it and the President in signing it into law.

Mr. ORTIZ. Mr. Chairman, I rise in support of this bill—engineered by my colleague from Texas Mr. EDWARDS—which funds vital military accounts and provides the largest increase in veterans funding in the history of the VA.

While the central concern for South Texas is a veterans hospital—I understand we must authorize that funding before we can appropriate it. I have talked about this issue with appropriators and authorizers alike . . . and those conversations will continue until we find a resolution to help these veterans get the inpatient care they deserve.

The Congress is committed to working in a bipartisan way to ensure that our budget honors the service of our veterans and builds a future worthy of their sacrifice. With passage of this bill, the 110th Congress will have voted for historic increases in veterans' health care and benefits programs, totaling nearly \$12 billion—including the joint resolution and the supplemental—to meet the needs of returning veterans from Iraq and Afghanistan . . . and make up for the Bush Administration's past shortcomings in its treatment of veterans.

This bill will provide veterans with the health care and benefits we promised them, resulting in the hiring of more qualified doctors and nurses to improve medical services to our veterans and to reduce waiting times for doctor appointments, and provide more to help veterans suffering from traumatic brain injury (TBI), post traumatic stress disorder (PTSD), mental health care issues, and lost limbs so that they can rebuild their lives.

For the first time, the budget for VA medical care exceeds the budget of the veterans' service organizations by \$294 million. This will ensure quality health care for 5.8 million patients, including about 263,000 Iraq and Afghanistan veterans, which the VA will treat in FY 2008. This significantly reduces the 400,000 claims backlog for veterans waiting for disability and other benefits by adding more than 1,100 new claims processors.

The bill also provides much needed maintenance of VA health care facilities (funding level is \$500 million above the President's request) to prevent another Walter Reed-type scandal from occurring. A recent VA report outlined 1,000 specific problems at VA health facilities around the country, with a backlog of \$5 billion in maintenance.

The enormous number of troops returning home with mental health disorders, including PTSD and traumatic brain injury, resulted in the bill including five polytrauma centers and three Centers of Excellence for Mental Health and Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD). These centers will be fully operational this year to care for those returning from Iraq and Afghanistan, including those with TBI. A February GAG report noted about one-third of veterans returning from Iraq and Afghanistan are facing mental health challenges, and up to 300,000 troops are expected to return from Iraq suffering from TBI.

The bill also protects taxpayers and veterans by including solid steps to ensure accountability and stop wasteful spending by increasing funding for the Inspector General for VA to improve services for veterans and their families and to prevent and deter potential waste, fraud and inefficiencies.

To strengthen our military, this bill provides better barracks, housing and training facilities when troops return from combat with an unprecedented \$21.4 billion investment in military construction, family housing, and BRAC—

with \$207 million more than the President's request.

To address end strength, the bill provides funding recommended by my subcommittee to begin the process of adding 65,000 Army, 27,000 Marine, and 9,000 National Guard and Reserve troops.

For BRAC, the bill fully funds the 2005 base realignment and closure process at \$8.2 billion, and supports the relocation of 70,000 troops from bases in Korea and Europe.

All this represents the start we need to pay for a healthy and vital military force to protect our nation today, tomorrow and for the coming decades.

Mr. HARE. Mr. Chairman, I rise in strong support of H.R. 2642, the Fiscal Year 2008 Military Construction and Veterans Affairs Appropriations Act.

I am honored to stand here today as a freshman member of this Democratic Congress as we approve "the largest" funding increase in the 77-year history of the Department of Veterans Affairs.

It is my hope that providing \$6.7 billion above last year's funding will only be the beginning of our commitment to the promises made to our service men and women.

All of us were outraged by the reports of what happened at Walter Reed. Part of the problem is for years the VA has been short-changed on funding, due to understating its budgeting needs instead of proactively planning for the needs of our veterans.

This underfunding has resulted in budget shortfalls, understaffing of vets centers, a huge claims backlog, and inexcusable delays at VA facilities.

This bill represents a change in priorities.

It funds an additional 1,100 claims' processors to address the 600,000 backlog.

It provides \$4.4 billion above 2007 levels for the Veterans Health Administration. This will help the VA treat the more than 5.8 million patients they expect in 2008.

Additionally, the bill increases funding for the VA's repair and maintenance accounts to prevent a VA medical facility from falling into unacceptable levels of disrepair.

I commend my colleagues on the VA Military Construction Appropriations Subcommittee for bringing to the floor a bill that exceeds the recommendations of the veterans' service organizations of the Independent Budget.

We've seen a change in priorities and I am going to continue to support this momentum until all veterans who want access to healthcare in the VA system, have it. I urge all my colleagues to pass this bill that funds critical benefits for our veterans.

Ms. CASTOR. Mr. Chairman, I am proud today to stand with this Congress as it affirms its commitment to the brave men and women who are part of our active and retired military services. Their collective sacrifice and service has been phenomenal, and we must do all we can to ensure that they receive the medical care that they have earned as a result of the sacrifices they have made in service to America. The bill before us provides an historic, substantial boost to the Veterans' Administration, allocating \$43.2 billion—\$3.8 billion more than the President's request and \$6.7 more than the FY 07 allocation—to properly fulfill America's obligation to our servicemen and women and their families.

As a representative of the State with the second highest population of military retirees

and veterans—nearly 2 million people—I know many Florida families stand to benefit greatly. The extra funding for the VA to double its benefits personnel in order to reduce the backlog of more than 400,000 benefit claims will do much to improve health care and efficiency for benefits that are due to many Florida families. The top two busiest VA Health Care centers, Bay Pines in St. Petersburg and Haley VA in Tampa, serve residents in my district. I have walked the halls of both facilities, and encountered active and retired military personnel looking for the best care possible for them and their families. This bill provides resources adequate to the enormously important task of supporting our veterans and their families as they transition back into civilian life. It also expands access to vital services in the areas of greatest concern for veterans of Iraq and Afghanistan: traumatic brain injury, post-traumatic stress disorder, treatment for burns, and amputation. Haley VA has the distinction of being one of a handful of poly-trauma centers, with special designation to handle traumatic brain injuries, and with its partner, the University of South Florida College Of Public Health, has been on the forefront of discovering the best roads to effective treatment for those suffering with TBI.

Also, this bill represents the recognition that we must confront, not shy away from, the serious issues in veterans care brought to light by the Walter Reed scandal. \$4.1 billion dollars, \$508 million above and beyond the President's request, is set aside for the ongoing maintenance and renovation of existing facilities to make certain they remain capable of delivering our veterans the treatment they deserve and need. It also heavily invests in information technology to better track health records, so that no American is allowed to fall through the cracks.

I urge this Congress to back up the talk about supporting our troops with concrete actions. We have an unwavering obligation as a country to do right by our servicemen and women, whether it be in the solemn purpose with which we must always send them off to war, or in providing the necessary care for them and their families upon their return. Their sacrifice must be respected not just with our words, but with our actions.

Mrs. WILSON of New Mexico. Mr. Chairman, I rise today to offer an amendment on the Military Construction and Veterans Affairs Appropriations Bill for FY 08. My amendment would devote \$2 million dollars from the Department Administration General Operations Expenses Account, of the nearly \$1.6 billion appropriated in this bill, to the Advisory Committee on Women Veterans. The intent of my amendment is that the Advisory Committee on Women Veterans would establish a commission to evaluate and make recommendations for improvements to the VA system so that it can better meet health care needs of women veterans.

In 1978, I purchased a one-way ticket to Colorado Springs, Colorado to enroll at the Air Force Academy. I was in the third class that accepted women into our service academies. I am the only woman veteran serving in the Congress. Women face different obstacles than men when trying to receive care from the VA. To start with, many women who have served in the military don't call themselves "veterans" and many women don't think of the VA as "their" system.

A larger number of women are serving in military and in the future we will see a higher number of women veterans. One in seven Americans deployed to Iraq and Afghanistan is a woman.

My goal in proposing this amendment is to bring together a group of people who can truly devote the time and effort to study the needs and examine the challenges our women veterans face. They then can report to Congress their finding and recommendations so that we, as a body, can evaluate these findings and implement improvements and initiatives to ensure women receive the care they have earned.

I introduced legislation similar to my amendment, H.R. 2394, the Bipartisan Commission on Wounded Women Veterans. This amendment would fund the commission envisioned in H.R. 2394.

I am grateful to all who serve their nation and we as a Congress have a responsibility to ensure they receive the best possible care. In this war on terrorism, the greatest burdens have fallen on the shoulders of a relatively small number of Americans who have volunteered to take great risks on our behalf. Events over the last few years have made a new generation of Americans realize just how precious our freedoms really are. We owe our freedom fighters—past, present, and future—a debt of gratitude for their selflessness and sacrifice. I will continue to fight to ensure that our veterans get the benefits they were promised, the health care they deserve, and the recognition that our Nation owes them.

Thank you for the time and I ask for a yes vote on my amendment.

Mr. REYES. Mr. Chairman, I rise to express my support for this important measure which reflects—in dollars and cents—just a small measure of our appreciation for all that men and women in uniform do in defense of our Nation.

We have an obligation to provide the housing and other facilities in which our military members and their families live and work. This measure includes the funds required to fully fund the President's budget request for military construction projects. The bill provides \$8.2 billion dollars to implement the 2005 BRAC recommendations and \$2.9 billion to replace, rehabilitate, and build housing for troops and their families.

As the representative of Fort Bliss, Texas I have seen the fruits of military construction spending, and I can assure my colleagues that these funds are being wisely used by the Army and the other military services to greatly improve the quality of life for our military members and their families. From a motorpool that allows a young technician to repair vehicles out of the heat and rain to a childcare center where the children of deployed service members can learn and grow, these facilities are more than bricks and mortar. They are an integral part of every soldier's daily life.

This bill provides an unprecedented level of funding for veterans health care which will allow us to begin to address the needs of current veterans who have for years been woefully under-served by the Veterans Administration, VA system. H.R. 2642 will also provide needed funding for men and women returning from combat in Iraq and Afghanistan.

This measure continues our efforts to improve benefits for our Nation's veterans and provides \$43.2 billion for veterans programs—

\$6.7 billion more than was allocated last year and \$3.8 billion more than the White House requested for VA programs. This additional funding will meet shortfalls in the Veterans Health Administration budget and provide needed funds to better address Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder, mental health and substance abuse, homeless veterans, and prosthetic research.

These programs and other initiatives funded in the Military Construction and Veterans Affairs Appropriations Act are critical to our troops and their families and to our veterans who sacrificed so much in defense of our Nation and our American values. I urge my colleagues to support this legislation.

Mrs. DRAKE. Mr. Chairman, as has been widely reported, the Department of Veterans Affairs continues to face challenges in improving service delivery to veterans and reducing the existing backlog of benefit claims.

While the VA made progress in fiscal years 2002 and 2003 reducing the size and age of its pending claims inventory, it has regrettably fallen behind in recent years. The VA's inventory of pending claims and their average time pending has increased significantly in the last 3 years and the Department is currently facing over 630,000 open benefit claims.

The VA reduced the average age of its pending claims from 182 days at the end of fiscal year 2001 to 111 days at the end of fiscal year 2003. However, by the end of fiscal year 2006, average days pending had increased to 127 days and is currently reported to be 177 days.

It should be noted that continued increases in the number and complexity of claims being filed have played a contributing role in the current backlog. In its fiscal year 2008 budget justification, the VA identified an increase in claims processing staff as essential to reducing the pending claims inventory and improving timeliness. However, the VA states that the budget request only provides resources to reduce the processing time to 145 days. Furthermore, even as increased funding is appropriated and staffing levels increase, the VA acknowledges that it still must take other actions to improve productivity.

Representatives from the VA have stated that there is a newly implemented strategy to manage the pending inventory and improve response time by getting more out of current resources, increasing staffing, and improving information technology. Given the current claims crisis, I believe that we need to know more about this strategy.

My amendment will require the VA to provide a report to Congress on the status of the number of pending disability benefit claims and the actions taken to reduce processing time for veterans' disability claims. As the House considers FY 2008 funding for the VA, I believe the Congress, the American people, and more importantly, our Nation's veterans are entitled to know how current and future resources will be implemented to address these concerns. This is the least we can do.

I understand that this amendment will be subject to a point of order and I will therefore not offer it. However, the current claims backlog is an issue of importance for our Nation's veterans. It is my hope that this Congress will address this issue in the near future.

Mr. LEWIS of Kentucky. Mr. Chairman, I rise today in strong support of funding for our soldiers, veterans, and military families. Military service is part of the proud history of the

Second Congressional District of Kentucky. The provisions included in this bill will significantly benefit many of those I am honored to represent.

The Military Construction and Veterans Affairs Appropriations Act of 2008 contains the largest ever increase in Veterans Health funding: including \$29 billion for new and modified medical services.

If passed, these funds will initiate the opening of two new Community Based Outpatient Clinics in my District, as designated by Secretary Nicholson. These facilities, and dozens of others across the country, will help to ensure that veterans have the highest quality local care possible.

The Second Congressional District is also home to Fort Knox. As a result of the 2005 BRAC proceedings, Fort Knox is transforming over the next few years from an institutional training installation to a multi-functional installation that will include an active force infantry brigade and the site for the Human Resources Command for the Army.

This bill includes \$8.2 billion to support necessary infrastructure preparations at Fort Knox and other BRAC-affected installations working to accommodate new military operations.

Mr. Chairman, I urge my colleagues to support timely funding for our nation's veterans and military installations by voting to approve this bill.

Mr. BUCHANAN. Mr. Chairman, I rise today to urge my colleagues to support the fiscal year 2008 military construction and veterans affairs appropriations bill which includes \$27.8 million dollars to construct a veterans' cemetery in my District.

The funding was part of the President's budget and will allow us to honor our commitment to provide nearly 400,000 veterans living within 75 miles of Sarasota, Florida with a final resting place that honors their military service.

The VA has purchased 245 acres of land in Sarasota County and construction is planned for May 2008. The first burials are anticipated in October of 2008.

With more than 1,800 veterans dying every day in this country, the timely completion of this project is a primary concern for area veterans and is one of my highest priorities.

This funding will help ensure that our goals are met and the veterans who proudly served this Nation and eligible family members can be placed to rest close to home and with the honor and dignity they deserve.

Mr. LANGEVIN. Mr. Chairman, I rise today in support of H.R. 2642, the Military Construction and Veterans Affairs Appropriations Act for Fiscal Year 2008. This measure shows what a high priority our Nation places on providing for our servicemembers, their families and our veterans.

The new Democratic leadership in Congress has faced many challenges in recent months regarding the treatment of servicemembers and veterans. Earlier this year, we learned about horrific conditions at the Walter Reed Army Medical Center, including overused outpatient housing in disrepair, patients confused about where to go after serious operations, and the tangled bureaucracy confronting servicemembers and their families. It was clear that administrative policies needed to be revised, not only at Walter Reed, but across the system at locations both here and abroad.

It was also clear that increasing the funding level for military health care was a priority. As

a result, Congress passed a supplemental spending bill that contained an additional \$1.8 billion for veterans' health care, and today we will pass a bill that is \$6.7 billion above fiscal year 2007 funds and \$3.8 billion over President Bush's request. The total amount in this bill is even more than what is requested in the Independent Budget, a needs estimate published by four veterans' service groups. If passed, H.R. 2642 will mark the largest annual increase to VA health care funding in over 75 years.

Mr. Chairman, we must ensure that servicemembers wounded in Iraq and Afghanistan have the services they require and as well anticipate the increasing number of returning veterans who have earned their promised benefits. To that end, H.R. 2642 provides \$43.2 billion for veterans medical care to alleviate the backlogged claims processing system and fund improvements for VA facilities. I am also pleased that this measure allots \$600 million for new initiatives for improving mental health and Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) centers, \$1.9 billion to improve the electronic health records system, and \$130 million to assist homeless veterans.

After a recent visit to the Providence VA Medical Center, I was impressed with the treatment of veterans, as well as the ongoing innovative research at the facility. I am also optimistic that upcoming construction projects will improve the facility, especially knowing that the VA will play a larger role in the coming years as more servicemembers return from ongoing conflicts. Today's bill provides \$4.1 billion for ongoing maintenance and renovations of existing facilities, which will help Providence attain its goals. I am also pleased that \$15 million is allocated for the Health Care Sharing Incentive Fund, which allows the Department of Defense and VA to increase research, improve access to care, and ensure a seamless transition for our veterans.

H.R. 2642 also includes \$21.4 billion for military construction. This amount is \$5.1 billion above the amount for fiscal year 2007, and will fully fund Base Realignment and Closure. This funding will also help improve training and quality of life facilities for active duty troops and members of the National Guard and Reserves, all of whom are playing critical roles in ongoing conflicts and need our support now more than ever. Finally, this measure includes \$2.8 billion to help increase the size of the Army, Marine Corps, the National Guard and Reserves over the next five years.

Mr. Chairman, we must maintain strong support for our men and women in uniform and all those who have bravely served our nation, and H.R. 2642 will do just that. May we all keep those currently serving abroad in our thoughts and wish them a safe return home.

Mr. WICKER. Mr. Chairman, I yield back the balance of my time.

The CHAIRMAN. All time for general debate has expired.

Pursuant to the order of the House of today, the bill shall be considered for amendment under the 5-minute rule.

No amendment to the bill may be offered except those specified in the previous order of the House of today, which is at the desk.

The Clerk will read.

The Clerk read as follows:

H.R. 2642

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in

Congress assembled, That the following sums are appropriated, out of any money in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, for military construction, the Department of Veterans Affairs, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2008, and for other purposes, namely:

TITLE I

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE
MILITARY CONSTRUCTION, ARMY

For acquisition, construction, installation, and equipment of temporary or permanent public works, military installations, facilities, and real property for the Army as currently authorized by law, including personnel in the Army Corps of Engineers and other personal services necessary for the purposes of this appropriation, and for construction and operation of facilities in support of the functions of the Commander in Chief, \$4,070,959,000, to remain available until September 30, 2012: *Provided*, That of this amount, not to exceed \$481,468,000 shall be available for study, planning, design, architect and engineer services, and host nation support, as authorized by law, unless the Secretary of Defense determines that additional obligations are necessary for such purposes and notifies the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress of the determination and the reasons therefor.

MILITARY CONSTRUCTION, NAVY AND MARINE
CORPS

(INCLUDING RESCISSION OF FUNDS)

For acquisition, construction, installation, and equipment of temporary or permanent public works, naval installations, facilities, and real property for the Navy and Marine Corps as currently authorized by law, including personnel in the Naval Facilities Engineering Command and other personal services necessary for the purposes of this appropriation, \$2,125,138,000, to remain available until September 30, 2012: *Provided*, That of this amount, not to exceed \$110,167,000 shall be available for study, planning, design, and architect and engineer services, as authorized by law, unless the Secretary of Defense determines that additional obligations are necessary for such purposes and notifies the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress of the determination and the reasons therefor: *Provided further*, That of the funds appropriated for "Military Construction, Navy and Marine Corps" under Public Law 108-132, \$5,862,000 are hereby rescinded.

MILITARY CONSTRUCTION, AIR FORCE
(INCLUDING RESCISSION OF FUNDS)

For acquisition, construction, installation, and equipment of temporary or permanent public works, military installations, facilities, and real property for the Air Force as currently authorized by law, \$927,428,000, to remain available until September 30, 2012: *Provided*, That of this amount, not to exceed \$51,587,000 shall be available for study, planning, design, and architect and engineer services, as authorized by law, unless the Secretary of Defense determines that additional obligations are necessary for such purposes and notifies the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress of the determination and the reasons therefor: *Provided further*, That of the funds appropriated for "Military Construction, Air Force" under Public Law 108-324, \$5,319,000 are hereby rescinded.

Mr. EDWARDS. Mr. Chairman, I move to strike the last word.

The CHAIRMAN. The gentleman from Texas is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. EDWARDS. Mr. Chairman, I will not use all 5 minutes.

And I think, as my colleagues have noticed, my comments have been very bipartisan today. I am proud that the bill that we put together was supported on a unanimous bipartisan basis in the committee. I am also proud as a Democrat that the new Democratic leadership, led by Speaker PELOSI, has made funding for veterans health care and benefits a top priority in this Congress.

I would just point out, in response to some of the comments made, that the first comments made referencing Republicans or Democrats were made by the minority in today's debate when the comment was made that Republicans have primarily supported veterans. And in comparisons of past increases between Republican and Democratic Congresses, I am not going to get into all that.

I would like to point out for the record that under the previous leadership of the Congress, the concurrent receipt problem wasn't even brought to the floor of the House until, led by Democrats, we almost had 218 signatures on a discharge position to override the previous Speaker of the House, who had not let the concurrent receipt bill get to the floor of the House.

But having said that fact, I am here to say we are proud to work with Mr. WICKER and work with our colleagues to see that we do have a historic increase in veterans health care spending in this bill, unprecedented in the history of the VA and in the history of our Nation. I am glad to see that the administration has reversed its threat to veto this bill because they were concerned it might spend too much on veterans and our military families. I am glad they recognize the error of their ways, and I commend them for pulling off of that veto threat.

So I just would reiterate what I again today have been saying, and that is I am proud to have worked on a bipartisan basis with my colleague Mr. WICKER and members of our subcommittee and others in this House to see that we got this historic bill on the floor.

□ 1300

The CHAIRMAN. The Clerk will read. The Clerk read as follows:

MILITARY CONSTRUCTION, DEFENSE-WIDE
(INCLUDING TRANSFER AND RESCISSION OF
FUNDS)

For acquisition, construction, installation, and equipment of temporary or permanent public works, installations, facilities, and real property for activities and agencies of the Department of Defense (other than the military departments), as currently authorized by law, \$1,806,928,000, to remain available until September 30, 2012: *Provided*, That such amounts of this appropriation as may be determined by the Secretary of Defense may be transferred to such appropriations of the Department of Defense available for military construction or family housing as the Secretary may designate, to be merged with and to be available for the same purposes, and for the same time period, as the appropriation or fund to which transferred: *Provided further*, That of the amount appropriated, not to exceed \$154,728,000 shall be

available for study, planning, design, and architect and engineer services, as authorized by law, unless the Secretary of Defense determines that additional obligations are necessary for such purposes and notifies the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress of the determination and the reasons therefor: *Provided further*, That of the funds appropriated for "Military Construction, Defense-Wide" under Public Law 110-5, \$7,592,000 are hereby rescinded.

MILITARY CONSTRUCTION, ARMY NATIONAL
GUARD

For construction, acquisition, expansion, rehabilitation, and conversion of facilities for the training and administration of the Army National Guard, and contributions therefor, as authorized by chapter 1803 of title 10, United States Code, and Military Construction Authorization Acts, \$439,291,000, to remain available until September 30, 2012.

MILITARY CONSTRUCTION, AIR NATIONAL
GUARD

For construction, acquisition, expansion, rehabilitation, and conversion of facilities for the training and administration of the Air National Guard, and contributions therefor, as authorized by chapter 1803 of title 10, United States Code, and Military Construction Authorization Acts, \$95,517,000, to remain available until September 30, 2012.

MILITARY CONSTRUCTION, ARMY RESERVE

For construction, acquisition, expansion, rehabilitation, and conversion of facilities for the training and administration of the Army Reserve as authorized by chapter 1803 of title 10, United States Code, and Military Construction Authorization Acts, \$154,684,000, to remain available until September 30, 2012.

MILITARY CONSTRUCTION, NAVY RESERVE

For construction, acquisition, expansion, rehabilitation, and conversion of facilities for the training and administration of the reserve components of the Navy and Marine Corps as authorized by chapter 1803 of title 10, United States Code, and Military Construction Authorization Acts, \$69,150,000, to remain available until September 30, 2012.

MILITARY CONSTRUCTION, AIR FORCE RESERVE
(INCLUDING RESCISSION OF FUNDS)

For construction, acquisition, expansion, rehabilitation, and conversion of facilities for the training and administration of the Air Force Reserve as authorized by chapter 1803 of title 10, United States Code, and Military Construction Authorization Acts, \$39,628,000, to remain available until September 30, 2012: *Provided*, That of the funds appropriated for "Military Construction, Air Force Reserve" under Public Law 109-114, \$3,069,000 are hereby rescinded.

NORTH ATLANTIC TREATY ORGANIZATION
SECURITY INVESTMENT PROGRAM

For the United States share of the cost of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization Security Investment Program for the acquisition and construction of military facilities and installations (including international military headquarters) and for related expenses for the collective defense of the North Atlantic Treaty Area as authorized by section 2806 of title 10, United States Code, and Military Construction Authorization Acts, \$201,400,000, to remain available until expended.

AMENDMENT OFFERED BY MR. HAYES

Mr. HAYES. Mr. Chairman, I offer an amendment.

The CHAIRMAN. The Clerk will designate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

Amendment offered by Mr. HAYES:

Page 7, line 12, insert after the dollar amount the following: "(reduced by \$30,000,000)".

Page 10, line 24, insert after the dollar amount the following: "(increased by \$30,000,000)".

The CHAIRMAN. Pursuant to the order of the House of today, the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. HAYES) and a Member opposed each will control 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from North Carolina.

Mr. HAYES. I want to thank Chairman EDWARDS and the ranking member, my friend, Mr. WICKER, for allowing me the time.

Mr. Chairman, I bring an amendment to the floor today because I feel the Base Realignment and Closure, BRAC, implementation process needs more funding than is being provided.

Mr. Chairman, the fiscal year 2007 continuing resolution did not adequately meet the needs of BRAC implementation. Though we came back and put a \$3.1 billion allocation for BRAC in the supplemental and we funded the President's fiscal year 2008 request in the bill, I do not believe we are doing all we should do in terms of funding this priority.

I realize the President's budget and supplemental request were based on the best estimates at the time, but there is no doubt that these figures were low. The Department of Defense currently estimates it will take \$30.8 billion from 2006 to 2011 to complete the 2005 Base Realignment and Closure round.

As the chairman and the ranking member pointed out in this bill, the current BRAC estimate is \$8 billion higher than that given by DOD only a year ago. I share the concern of the committee that even with this large increase, the projected funding estimate does not fully take into account construction and inflation costs and is lower than what will be actually required.

My home district, Fort Bragg, the epicenter of the universe, is facing these miscalculations today. As part of the BRAC 2005 plan for Fort Bragg, it was named the Joint Mobilization Center; however, no funding to house servicemembers going through the process of mobilization was involved.

The garrison is currently housing these mainly National Guard and Reserve members in the 82nd Airborne barracks, while the 82nd is deployed to Iraq and Afghanistan. When the 82nd returns, Fort Bragg will be forced to house those going through the Joint Mobilization Center in World War II-era barracks which are completely inadequate.

As part of the BRAC 2005 recommendations, Pope Air Force Base will be realigned to become part of Fort Bragg. This means that Bragg will take over the airfield at Pope, but there is no money currently programmed for the new control tower or the fire and rescue station that will be

necessary to support carrying out this realignment. Fort Bragg and Pope are but one example of this trend. No doubt these kinds of BRAC-related, unplanned expenses for military construction needs are prevalent at installations across the country.

The BRAC process was designed to increase the efficiency and increase the effectiveness of combat capability of our forces. Underfunding, even slightly, will affect our Nation's combat capability first. In the midst of this global war on terror, we need to be very careful not to underfund our combat capability, either indirectly or inadvertently.

Although I greatly respect and appreciate the chairman and ranking member's funding of the Base Realignment and Closure program, I strongly believe that this crucial national security area needs more focus. We need to search for ways to implement it.

To this end, my amendment reprograms \$30 million from NATO Security Investment to the Department of Defense. As you know, the NSIP is designed to be our contribution to construction of support facilities at NATO bases. While this is important, NATO is forward deployed, and it does not always provide us with a swift return on our investments in terms of combat capability.

In the past, NATO fought primarily from fixed bases in forward areas, but now it will operate from deployed locations. Infrastructure provided in NSIP, while important in previous NATO strategy, is somewhat less now. Conversely, BRAC and global rebasing moves direct American forces from Europe to home stations here in the U.S. Security requirements in Europe are decreasing while security requirements in the U.S., as well as readiness requirements at home stations, are going up as new units are reformed here at home.

The money could be better spent in the BRAC program with a focus on improving our quick reaction and Special Operations Forces. It will increase our Nation's combat power, fighting the continued war against terrorists, and it will improve the combat power of NATO.

I urge you to vote in favor of my amendment and join me in support of Base Realignment and Closure implementation.

I urge my colleagues to vote "yes" on this amendment.

Mr. Chairman, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. EDWARDS. Mr. Chairman, I rise in opposition to the gentleman's amendment.

The CHAIRMAN. The gentleman from Texas is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. EDWARDS. Let me just say that I have great respect for Mr. HAYES's support of the military. He and I have worked together over the years in support of our veterans and our troops; his record is clear on that. I sympathize with his interest and support his inter-

est in seeing that we fully fund BRAC. I have been one of those, along with Mrs. BOYDA and others on your side of the aisle, that have worked hard to try to fully fund BRAC.

The opposition I have to this amendment, Mr. Chairman, is not in the good-faith effort to increase funding for BRAC, even though we fully fund it by \$8.2 billion. My opposition to this amendment comes from the fact that the gentleman would cut by 15 percent President Bush's request for the NATO Security Investment program. Now, maybe a lot of Americans aren't familiar with that program, but that program has provided infrastructure investment in Iraq to support U.S. forces in our fight in Iraq. The NATO Investment program has provided funding for our troops in Afghanistan. We are working with NATO forces to defend our national security interests in Afghanistan.

The cut of \$30 million proposed by the gentleman, I think, would unintentionally do great harm to the interests of our troops in Iraq and Afghanistan and throughout the world where we are working with NATO forces.

Let me give you some specifics of how this money is used. In the past, we have used \$9 million for the restoration of water distribution system at the Royal Air Forces base in Lakenheath in the United Kingdom. We have three Air Force F-15 squadrons there. We have used this fund to provide \$25 million for a medical treatment facility at Aviano Air Base in Italy. At Aviano, we have two U.S. Air Force F-16 squadron stations. And again, as I mentioned, we've used this money to support needed NATO infrastructure that helps U.S. forces in Iraq and Afghanistan.

So I would like to offer to the gentleman a good-faith effort, as we move to conference committee, to work with Mr. WICKER and work on a bipartisan basis to see if we can find additional funding for BRAC. I want additional funding for BRAC, but let's not undermine President Bush's commitments to NATO, our Nation's commitments to NATO, and unintentionally undermine important infrastructure programs that do support our troops that are risking their lives in Afghanistan and Iraq, even as we speak today.

Mr. WICKER. Will the gentleman yield?

Mr. EDWARDS. I would be glad to yield.

Mr. WICKER. I thank my friend, the chairman of the subcommittee, for yielding.

I would simply join my chairman in his offer to continue working with Mr. HAYES with regard to this effort. Certainly, no one has been a stronger advocate for the men and women at Fort Bragg, and also Pope Air Force Base and the families in that surrounding area, than has Robin Hayes of North Carolina.

I appreciate the sense of the amendment. I suspect that it will not pass

today, Mr. Chairman, but I do want to work with Chairman EDWARDS to see if we can accommodate the gentleman from North Carolina's needs as we move forward in the process.

Mr. EDWARDS. I would absolutely look forward to working and looking through every nook and cranny in the budget to see if we can squeeze out additional funding for BRAC. I agree with the gentleman from North Carolina that the Department of Defense has underestimated the full cost of BRAC, and we need to watch that very carefully as well.

Mr. Chairman, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. HAYES. Mr. Chairman, may I inquire as to how much time is remaining?

The CHAIRMAN. Each side has 1 minute remaining.

Mr. HAYES. I thank very much the chairman. People who know Chet Edwards and Robin Hayes clearly understand our love for the military. And I appreciate Ranking Member WICKER's comments. When all is said and done, they have tough decisions to make, but there is no place like home. Home is Fort Bragg, and I hope that the Members will support my amendment.

Again, I thank Chairman EDWARDS and Ranking Member WICKER, and I look forward to working with them however this comes out, because this process is not going to end this morning or tomorrow. And again, I thank you for the time and look forward to working with you. I hope the membership will support my amendment.

Mr. Chairman, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. EDWARDS. Mr. Chairman, I do look forward to working with Mr. HAYES to see if we can find additional funding for BRAC.

I will just finish by saying that right now home for many American forces is Iraq, it's Afghanistan, it's with NATO forces throughout the world defending our families and our homes. That is why I simply must oppose this, reluctantly, but strongly oppose this amendment because of the source of the funding. If we can find a better source of the funding, I would be glad to support the gentleman.

But I must oppose the amendment because it would undermine our commitment to NATO and vital infrastructure programs and investments that are so very important to our servicemen and -women serving in Iraq, Afghanistan and throughout the world today.

Mr. Chairman, I yield back the balance of my time.

The CHAIRMAN. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. HAYES).

The question was taken; and the Chairman announced that the yeas appeared to have it.

Mr. HAYES. Mr. Chairman, I demand a recorded vote.

The CHAIRMAN. Pursuant to clause 6 of rule XVIII, further proceedings on

the amendment offered by the gentleman from North Carolina will be postponed.

The Clerk will read.

The Clerk read as follows:

FAMILY HOUSING CONSTRUCTION, ARMY

For expenses of family housing for the Army for construction, including acquisition, replacement, addition, expansion, extension, and alteration, as authorized by law, \$419,400,000, to remain available until September 30, 2012.

FAMILY HOUSING OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE, ARMY

For expenses of family housing for the Army for operation and maintenance, including debt payment, leasing, minor construction, principal and interest charges, and insurance premiums, as authorized by law, \$742,920,000.

FAMILY HOUSING CONSTRUCTION, NAVY AND MARINE CORPS

For expenses of family housing for the Navy and Marine Corps for construction, including acquisition, replacement, addition, expansion, extension, and alteration, as authorized by law, \$298,329,000, to remain available until September 30, 2012.

FAMILY HOUSING OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE, NAVY AND MARINE CORPS

For expenses of family housing for the Navy and Marine Corps for operation and maintenance, including debt payment, leasing, minor construction, principal and interest charges, and insurance premiums, as authorized by law, \$371,404,000.

FAMILY HOUSING CONSTRUCTION, AIR FORCE

For expenses of family housing for the Air Force for construction, including acquisition, replacement, addition, expansion, extension, and alteration, as authorized by law, \$362,747,000, to remain available until September 30, 2012.

FAMILY HOUSING OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE, AIR FORCE

For expenses of family housing for the Air Force for operation and maintenance, including debt payment, leasing, minor construction, principal and interest charges, and insurance premiums, as authorized by law, \$688,335,000.

FAMILY HOUSING OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE, DEFENSE-WIDE

For expenses of family housing for the activities and agencies of the Department of Defense (other than the military departments) for operation and maintenance, leasing, and minor construction, as authorized by law, \$48,848,000.

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE FAMILY HOUSING IMPROVEMENT FUND

For the Department of Defense Family Housing Improvement Fund, \$500,000, to remain available until expended, for family housing initiatives undertaken pursuant to section 2883 of title 10, United States Code, providing alternative means of acquiring and improving military family housing and supporting facilities.

CHEMICAL DEMILITARIZATION CONSTRUCTION, DEFENSE-WIDE

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

For expenses of construction, not otherwise provided for, necessary for the destruction of the United States stockpile of lethal chemical agents and munitions in accordance with the provisions of section 1412 of the Department of Defense Authorization Act, 1986 (50 U.S.C. 1521), and for the destruction of other chemical warfare materials that are not in the chemical weapon stockpile, as currently authorized by law,

\$86,176,000, to remain available until September 30, 2012: *Provided*, That such amounts of this appropriation as may be determined by the Secretary of Defense may be transferred to such appropriations of the Department of Defense available for military construction as the Secretary may designate, to be merged with and to be available for the same purposes, and for the same time period, as the appropriation to which transferred.

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE BASE CLOSURE ACCOUNT 1990

For deposit into the Department of Defense Base Closure Account 1990, established by section 2906(a)(1) of the Defense Base Closure and Realignment Act of 1990 (10 U.S.C. 2687 note), \$270,689,000, to remain available until expended.

AMENDMENT OFFERED BY MR. BLUMENAUER

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Mr. Chairman, I offer an amendment.

The CHAIRMAN. The Clerk will designate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

Amendment offered by Mr. BLUMENAUER:

Page 10, line 17, insert after the dollar amount the following: "(increased by \$50,000,000)".

Page 10, line 24, insert after the dollar amount the following: "(reduced by \$201,000,000)".

The CHAIRMAN. Pursuant to the order of the House of today, the gentleman from Oregon (Mr. BLUMENAUER) and a Member opposed each will control 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Oregon.

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Mr. Chairman, I yield myself 2 minutes.

Mr. Chairman, first, let me begin by expressing my deep appreciation to the subcommittee for their work in providing an increase over the President's request for funding base cleanup. And particularly what we're talking about here are the legacy locations, places that have been closed in previous BRAC cycles, 1995, 1993, 1991, 1988. However, as we consider this appropriations act, I am concerned that we continue to dramatically underfund our commitment to communities impacted by these past BRAC rounds.

□ 1315

These communities are ones that have been penalized twice. They are penalized when the base is closed, and second, they are penalized because they are unable to make use of the land left behind because of hazardous contamination caused by unexploded ordnance.

According to the most recent Defense Environmental Programs' annual report, there is an estimated \$3.5 billion backlog for environmental cleanup of these bases. This represents over 140,000 acres of land that remain unusable by local communities for economic development across this country.

At the current levels, Mr. Chairman, we are facing people who went through the trauma of base closure in 1988, for instance, in Sacramento; they are going to wait over 60 years to be cleaned up.

I appreciate the words of the subcommittee Chair and ranking member

in terms of what they are trying to do with the difficult issues regarding BRAC, and I appreciate there is a very generous number that have been established, maybe not completely adequate, to try and deal with the people who were just whacked in the last round of closure. But, for heaven's sake, we need to keep our commitments to the communities that have worked in good faith, that had their bases closed 5 years, 10 years, 15 years ago, and still are awaiting our meeting, our commitment to them.

I strongly urge support of the amendment that I have introduced with Ms. GINNY BROWN-WAITE.

Mr. EDWARDS. Mr. Chairman, I rise in opposition to the amendment.

The CHAIRMAN. The gentleman from Texas is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. EDWARDS. Mr. Chairman, while I cannot support this amendment, I want to thank Mr. BLUMENAUER and Mr. FARR for having led the fight in Congress to bring to every Member's attention the terribly important need to better fund the cleanup of past military sites that have been closed as a result of base realignment and closing process.

There is a \$3.5 billion backlog for the BRAC 1990 round 17 years ago. For those communities that have been a partner in defending our Nation, we owe it to them morally to see that we provide the adequate funds to allow those sites to be cleaned up so they can be utilized in a productive manner on behalf of their communities.

The reason I can't support the amendment and will oppose it is because of the outlay technicalities, the gentleman actually has to cut \$200 million from the BRAC 2005 account in order to fund additional \$50 million for the BRAC 1990 account. So that outlay problem could create great problems by cutting funding for BRAC 2005 in order to help the cleanup of BRAC 1990. We could inadvertently make it more difficult to have barracks ready for troops coming back from Iraq and Afghanistan to their homes here in the United States. It might be more difficult to have military training facilities, necessary at new Army bases, built. So, I oppose this.

But even as I oppose this amendment, I want to thank the gentleman. He has done every community in this country a service, along with Mr. FARR. Every community that has continued waiting 17 years after the 1990 BRAC round has suffered from the fact that the Congress and the administrations have not adequately funded this. It is time we work with the administration and ask them to increase that funding.

Because of the Members' strong support, Mr. BLUMENAUER and Mr. FARR, we have provided \$271 million for the 1990 BRAC round, and that is an increase of \$50 million, or a 23 percent increase over the administration's budget request, recognizing that budget request, in my personal opinion, was inadequate.

Mr. Chairman, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Mr. Chairman, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from California (Mr. FARR).

Mr. FARR. Mr. Chairman, I thank the gentleman for yielding. I want to first of all compliment the chairman for adding an additional \$50 million.

What every Member of Congress ought to worry about is that we have so many bases that have been closed in the United States that have not been able to finish their cleanup. That means that they can't do economic development. They just sit there with fences around them because they have unexploded ordnances. It is what they call "warm basing" a property. Mayor and city councils and local government folks are furious about this.

There is a \$3.5 billion cleanup necessary. What Mr. BLUMENAUER is saying is, let's just put \$50 million more towards that. That will go a long way toward getting those high-priority communities cleaned up.

Frankly, there is no movement that can be taken until this is done, because the only government that can clean up unexploded ordnances is the Federal Government. You can't delegate it out. It can't be a State or local issue.

If you want to do economic development in your States and home communities which have been affected by these numerous base closings over the years, for those of you that have base closures, just the recent base closure, there is a separate account. But the reason we have to put more money into this is, there are only two ways of getting money into there, either from sales of property or from direct appropriations. The sales of property haven't filled up this account. So the only way, if we are going to address the unexploded ordnance cleanup, to amend the bill is to add an additional \$50 million. It is urgent for economic development at the local level. It is good government.

Mr. Chairman, I ask for an "aye" vote.

Mr. BLUMENAUER. May I inquire as to how much time remains.

The CHAIRMAN. The gentleman from Oregon has an additional 1½ minutes.

Mr. EDWARDS. Mr. Chairman, I move to strike the last word.

The CHAIRMAN. The gentleman from Texas is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. EDWARDS. Mr. Chairman, I yield to the gentleman from Florida (Mr. CRENSHAW), a leader on our Appropriations Subcommittee on Military Construction and Veterans Affairs.

Mr. CRENSHAW. Mr. Chairman, I thank the gentleman for yielding.

Mr. Chairman, I want to rise very briefly in opposition. I share the same concern that we all share about these unexploded ordnance sites. The safety of our citizens is important, and I think our subcommittee has recognized that by stating very clearly in very strong language that the Department

of Defense should make this a priority, that we should get rid of this unacceptable backlog.

But I don't think we can take money out of the 2005 round of BRAC to solve the problem. That would be like robbing Peter to pay Paul. The 2005 round of BRAC has been put together. There is already some concern that it may not be fully funded, so if we take one penny out of that pot of money and spend it somewhere else, we could upset a very delicate balance.

We have to remember we have made a commitment to our men and women in uniform. For instance, I know in my community, they are building a \$129 million hangar to house all the P-3s that will come down from Maine. If there is not enough money to do that, what happens to those planes? They are stranded. What happens to the sailors that are coming? They are stranded.

So while I share everyone's concern in dealing with this backlog, I think it is inappropriate and I think it is wrong to take money which would upset that kind of balance. We have to remember not only do we care about our communities, but we care about our commitment to our men and women in uniform.

Therefore, I would rise in opposition and urge my colleagues to vote "no" on this amendment.

Mr. EDWARDS. Mr. Chairman, I yield the balance of my time to the gentleman from Oregon (Mr. BLUMENAUER).

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Mr. Chairman, I appreciate what my friend from Florida said, and I have no interest in robbing Peter to pay Paul. But let's take it down to a very specific example that you are familiar with in Jacksonville. You had a base closed, Cecil Naval Air Station, in a prior round. Under the current schedule, this facility is not scheduled to be cleaned up until 2026, another 19 years.

Now, you are right, we have put a significant amount of money into the 2005 round of BRAC closures. We put \$5 billion in the supplemental. And you have put in this bill which I appreciate, almost \$8.2 billion. But where I take modest exception with the gentleman is that you can't spend it. The payout rate is about 10 percent. I am seeking to transfer 2 percent away from areas that you can't spend this year or next year or the year after that.

But I will distribute a list of people who have been waiting in some cases since 1988. They have plans ready to go. They are ready to clean up. If you talk to the companies that are the ordnance contractors, they are ready to go. They will clean this up. But we have got to stop the fits and the starts, where we don't follow through on our commitments.

With all due respect, if I had a facility in the 2005 BRAC cycle, I would like this Congress to start meeting its commitments from 1988 and 1990 and 1992 and 1995, because if we don't, subsequent Congresses are going to play the

same game. Because you can't spend this \$13 billion, it will be dragged on and dragged out, and it will ultimately be diverted. Then we will be here, or some of you will be here, 10 years from now, and people will be wondering why the 2005 round of BRAC is waiting, like Mather Air Force Base, for 60 years, or why people in El Toro are waiting for 30 years.

With all due respect, I would hope that the subcommittee would build on its good work, but look at the payout rate for the \$13 billion you have for 2005, which we estimate maybe will be spent, 10 percent.

Join with me in shifting a modest 2 percent of that money, so that we can keep our commitments to people who have been waiting since 1988, since 1990, 1993 and 1995.

I deeply appreciate the work that the subcommittee has done, and I appreciate Mr. EDWARDS, you have been encouraging and helping the work that I have done in the past on this with Mr. FARR. And it is important that you put \$50 million in above the administrations request but I hope we can work to keep the commitment to the people.

The CHAIRMAN. The gentleman's time has expired.

At this point, the gentleman from Texas has 2½ minutes. The gentleman from Oregon has 1½ minutes.

Mr. EDWARDS. Mr. Chairman, I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from California (Mr. FARR).

Mr. FARR. Mr. Chairman, I want to just reiterate on what Mr. BLUMENAUER indicated. This isn't a "rob Peter to pay Paul" case. But if you are from the Jefferson Proving Ground, you have been waiting a long time. If you are from Fort Ord, California, where I am from and why I am really interested in this, we closed in the 1992 round, and we are doing massive economic development, and it is foreclosed if you can't get into cleaning up the unexploded ordnance. Fort Meade, Fort McClellan, Savannah Army Depot, the list goes on and on. These are the kinds of projects that are out there, ready to go. Just take the projects off the shelf, fund them and get it done.

I am on this committee and I am very sympathetic. I am very appreciative of what the chairman has done, increasing the account by \$50 million. We are going to have an amendment in a minute to cut it, which would be the worst thing we could ever do for all these reasons. Mr. BLUMENAUER is trying to increase it by \$50 million so we could actually have enough money to get some of these projects started. I think it is good government. It is promises made, promises kept, and that is what we ought to do.

Mr. EDWARDS. Mr. Chairman, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. BLUMENAUER. I think I have 1½ minutes left?

The CHAIRMAN. The gentleman is recognized for 1½ minutes.

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Mr. Chairman, my Republican cosponsor is stuck in

traffic, and I wanted GINNY to have a chance to speak on this. Evidently, she is not going to make it.

Mr. Chairman, I do think this is very important in terms of our keeping our commitments. I appreciate the work that the subcommittee is doing in this broad range of areas, but I would hope that you would work with us, because you cannot spend the \$13.5 billion. The adoption of this amendment will have no effect on BRAC cleanup for the 2005 round for years to come, if at all.

But failure, failure for Congress to keep our commitments to these legacy BRAC programs, not only does it penalize these people who have been waiting in line for, in some cases, 19 years, but it makes it more likely, frankly, that people who are in the 2005 cycle are going to end up having Congress do to them what pass Congresses have done to the legacy BRAC.

□ 1330

I appreciate the work of the subcommittee, and I look forward to working with you, and echo my friend from California that it would be the worst of all possible worlds if somehow the next amendment, taking money away from these critical bases, was somehow diverted for another use. But I hope that we spare ourselves that problem by adopting the amendment before us.

Ms. GINNY BROWN-WAITE of Florida. Mr. Chairman, as a Co-Chair of the Unexploded Ordnances Caucus, I strongly support this amendment. Anyone who lives on or near a site containing disposed munitions can attest how unsettling this can be.

In Florida, thousands of my constituents have moved to an area on or adjacent to an old military gunnery. Unfortunately, inspections have found rockets, mortars, and grenades, putting people at substantial risk. In fact, one piece of live ordnance was found less than six inches beneath a child's backyard trampoline.

This is not a problem confined to a few areas—this is a nationwide issue. Across the country, from Representative EARL BLUMENAUER's district in Oregon, to Brooksville, Florida, many sites face a similar dilemma. Some people are literally sitting on ticking time bombs.

Congress has an opportunity to prevent the worst from happening. Jurisdiction over clean-up at these older sites falls under two major accounts—the Formerly Used Defense Sites account within the Defense Appropriations bill, and the BRAC 1990 account within this legislation. Our amendment would redirect funds from the BRAC 2005 account, which is set to see a large increase over its previous year funding, to cleanup efforts at these older sites, where people are increasingly taking up residence.

Listen up America! The Federal Government has an obligation to clean up its mess. I urge my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to support this commonsense amendment and put public safety first.

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Mr. Chairman, I yield back the balance of my time.

The CHAIRMAN. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Oregon (Mr. BLUMENAUER).

The question was taken; and the Chairman announced that the noes appeared to have it.

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Mr. Chairman, I demand a recorded vote.

The CHAIRMAN. Pursuant to clause 6 of rule XVIII, further proceedings on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Oregon will be postponed.

AMENDMENT OFFERED BY MR. PRICE OF GEORGIA

Mr. PRICE of Georgia. Mr. Chairman, I offer an amendment.

The CHAIRMAN. The Clerk will designate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

Amendment offered by Mr. PRICE of Georgia:

Page 10, line 17, after the dollar amount, insert "(reduced by \$50,000,000)".

Page 27, line 6, after the dollar amount insert "(increased by \$22,000,000)".

The CHAIRMAN. Pursuant to the order of the House of today, the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. PRICE) and the gentleman from Texas (Mr. EDWARDS) each will control 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Georgia.

Mr. PRICE of Georgia. Mr. Chairman, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I thank the Chair, and I thank the leadership for the opportunity to present this amendment.

This amendment is very simple. It transfers \$50 million from the 1990 BRAC account and puts \$22 million into the Veterans Health Administration and Medical Services account. The proposal for the 1990 BRAC account is \$50 million above the Department of Defense request. As has been talked about with the previous amendment, it is nigh impossible to be spending more than the request.

The money that is in the request is used for environmental cleanup associated with previous BRAC-based closings, and my amendment would make the 1990 BRAC account reflect the Defense Department request and place \$22 million of these funds in health care for our veterans. The amendment as scored by CBO is outlay neutral which is the reason for the difference in the figures.

While cleaning up after base closings is indeed important, the unrequested money, as has been mentioned, would be very difficult to spend and would be better spent, I believe, by providing better health care for our returning service men and women.

The conflict we are in has left many soldiers with lifelong injuries, and veterans are acquiring lasting health care. As a physician, I am well aware of the fact that traumatic brain injury and post-traumatic stress disorder are the signature conditions from our current conflict. As we are learning more about traumatic brain injury and PTSD, we find that more and more of our soldiers are suffering from these injuries.

I believe it is imperative that we ensure that as much funding as possible

is available to go for important veterans health care. I believe this amendment to be a fiscally responsible amendment that ensures that our veterans are taken care of in the finest possible manner. I urge adoption of the amendment.

Mr. Chairman, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. EDWARDS. Mr. Chairman, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Chairman, I am proud of the fact that under the new leadership in the Congress, in a period of 6 months, we will have increased veterans health care spending by over \$10 billion compared to the funding level that existed in December of 2006.

Virtually every major veterans organization in America has applauded this bill for its \$6 billion increase in veterans health care spending.

I salute any Member of this House who has worked or is working or will work to improve funding for veterans health care, but I must say to the gentleman, and perhaps in fairness to him he spoke to other Members of the House, but when I was working as chairman on the Subcommittee on Veterans Funding for a \$3.4 billion increase in VA health care spending for the 2007 continuing resolution, I didn't hear from the gentleman.

When as chairman I worked to add \$1.8 billion in the Iraq war supplemental for VA health care programs, I didn't hear from the gentleman.

When Mr. WICKER and I worked together on a bipartisan basis to put together the largest increase in VA health care spending in the 77-year history of the VA, I didn't hear from the gentleman any requests for an additional \$22 million for VA medical services.

Here at the relatively last moment we get this amendment. While it is well intentioned and I salute and respect the gentleman for trying to increase funding for VA health care, we have been working for 6 months to provide more health care funding for the VA than any previous Congress in the history of the country. And with Mr. WICKER's bipartisan leadership, we have accomplished that so far.

The problem I have with this amendment is that it takes \$50 million out of the BRAC 1990 account. Now, in this bill we provide \$3.8 billion above the President's request for VA health care and benefits programs and only \$207 million above the President's request for BRAC and military construction together.

I think it is very modest to ask for, given there is a \$3.5 billion backlog to clean up former military sites all across America, in States such as California, Texas. And in a number of other States, Alabama, Alaska, Colorado, Connecticut, Florida, Illinois, Indiana, Maryland, Massachusetts, New Jersey, New Mexico, New York, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, this BRAC 1990 money is needed to help these communities get

back on their feet and take this former military land and use it for the benefit of their communities and for economic growth in their communities.

So given we have had a \$3.8 billion increase in veterans health care spending above the President's request in this bill, I think it is more than fair that we add an additional \$50 million to a BRAC 1990 program that needs \$3.5 billion.

So I am going to oppose the gentleman's amendment and encourage him to work with our committee on a bipartisan basis in the months ahead, just as the Members of the committee worked on a bipartisan basis to provide historic increases in veterans health care funding.

Mr. Chairman, I yield the balance of my time to Mr. BLUMENAUER.

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Mr. Chairman, I appreciate the gentleman's courtesy, and I am really bitterly disappointed that we would have somebody come before us to break the commitment that we have to the previous BRAC-round cleanups, communities across the country who are going to wait up to 60 years to have their bases cleaned up, to take that funding and further reduce it. I think this is a very cruel cut.

If you wanted to do something, you've got \$13 billion in the 2005 BRAC account that is only going to be spent a maximum of 10 percent. Why in heaven's name would we reach back and penalize people who have been waiting in some cases since 1988 to have the Federal Government keep its commitment to base closure and cleanup. I think this is cruel. I think it is unjustified. I think that it is unfair to make these communities that have dealt with unexploded ordnances and military toxins and have land that is not available for reuse and penalize them for a small amount of veterans health.

I respectfully request that we reject this amendment.

Mr. PRICE of Georgia. Mr. Chairman, I appreciate the chairman's comments, and I applaud the work he has done to increase funding for veterans health care, sincerely. I don't recall, specifically, requests to the committee; but I am certainly on record in multiple areas across this Congress in urging increased funding for health care. As a physician, I appreciate the need for increased funding for health care across all areas of our budget.

My understanding regarding this provision in the bill is that the \$50 million increase over the DOD request is, as I understood it, money that would not be able to be spent in fiscal year 2008. Consequently, that was the reason we requested or proposed in this amendment that the money come from that. So removing \$50 million from there, based on outlays by CBO, would stipulate that \$22 million was available; and it is my respected request to my colleagues that we place that money for veterans health care for the obvious benefits to all.

Mr. Chairman, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. EDWARDS. Mr. Chairman, I move to strike the last word.

The CHAIRMAN. The gentleman is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. EDWARDS. Mr. Chairman, I yield to the gentleman from California (Mr. FARR).

Mr. FARR. Mr. Chairman, I would just like to respond to the gentleman from Georgia about his amendment.

First of all, I think it is an ill-conceived amendment, and here's why.

In order to build veterans facilities on former military property, you have to have that property cleaned and cleared and transferred. I happen to represent a base where we have that problem. We have to clear the area. So if you want to provide health care for your communities, you have to do this clearance.

Your statement that this money couldn't be spent is totally false. These are projects ready to go. It is the newest BRAC round that can't be spent until 2008 because they have to have all their plans in place.

You are cutting \$50 million out of something that is very critical for a lot of communities and can do a lot of good, and you are adding it to a program where we just put in \$3.4 billion. \$3.4 billion. So \$50 million more in that account is not going to help.

Frankly, we have already raised that account in committee with strong bipartisan support by \$1.7 billion over what the President asked for. So you are going to steal from essentially accounts that are critical and put it into an account that has been plussed-up and is fat. The consequences are going to be that people who are wanting to provide health care services for veterans in their community won't be able to build that facility or get that facility refurbished because the environmental cleanup hasn't been done because we didn't have enough money in the old account. And the only way we can get that money in the account, as I said previously, is to appropriate it.

I think this is a very reckless amendment. I would prefer that we even add more, but that was opposed. But this one, I would hope that you might withdraw your amendment because you are going to do more harm than good.

Mr. PRICE of Georgia. Would the gentleman yield?

Mr. EDWARDS. I yield to the gentleman from Georgia.

Mr. PRICE of Georgia. I appreciate the chairman yielding.

I would hope that we wouldn't impugn an individual's motives for bringing amendments forward. My motive is sincere. I believe it is appropriate to increase funding for veterans health care as much as possible, and it was my understanding, and we can disagree about whether or not the funds would be available to be spent in fiscal year 2008, and we may have a legitimate disagreement about that, but I would hope that we wouldn't impugn an individual's motives.

Mr. EDWARDS. Reclaiming my time, I certainly don't question the gentleman's motives. Could I ask the gentleman where did the \$22 million figure come from.

We increased VA health care spending in this bill by \$3.8 billion above what President Bush asked for. That is a \$6 billion increase in VA health care spending over last year. That level of funding has been saluted by every national veterans organization, including the American Legion, Military Officers Association of America, AMVETS, National Association for Uniformed Service, Disabled American Veterans, and dozens of others. Where did the gentleman at the last minute come up with the \$22 million figure?

We haven't had this conversation at any time during the first 6 months of this year when we were working on adding \$10 billion, and it was done on a bipartisan basis, to VA health care funding.

Where did the \$22 million figure come from, if I can ask the gentleman?

Mr. PRICE of Georgia. Mr. Chairman, will the gentleman yield?

Mr. EDWARDS. I yield to the gentleman from Georgia.

Mr. PRICE of Georgia. I appreciate the gentleman yielding, and I commend you for the increase in health care spending.

The \$22 million comes from removing the \$50 million that the Defense Department didn't request in the account, and then it works out to be \$22 million based on outlays.

Mr. EDWARDS. Right. You take \$50 million in order to add \$22 million, but did the gentleman meet with Veterans Administration leaders, perhaps the Secretary of Health for the VA, and did they request this additional \$22 million?

Was there a specific project that wasn't being funded or a particular need that wasn't being met by the \$6 billion increase in VA health care spending this year that caused the gentleman to ask specifically for a \$22 million increase?

Mr. PRICE of Georgia. Mr. Chairman, will the gentleman yield?

Mr. EDWARDS. I yield to the gentleman from Georgia.

Mr. PRICE of Georgia. I think I mentioned in my comments that the increase in traumatic brain injury and post-traumatic stress syndrome that we are seeing with the conflict that we are currently in obviously warrants as much funding as we can make available to our veterans who are serving us so proudly.

Mr. EDWARDS. And I agree with the gentleman. That is why we provided over \$600 million more than the administration request to improve mental health care, traumatic brain injury and PTSD services.

Reclaiming my time, Mr. Chairman, I respect the gentleman's intentions in this effort. I would simply say that we have provided a historic increase in VA health care spending in this bill. That

level of funding has been supported by virtually every major veterans organization in America, and we ought not to have to gut another important program for the gentleman's last-minute amendment.

□ 1345

The CHAIRMAN. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. PRICE).

The question was taken; and the Chairman announced that the noes appeared to have it.

Mr. PRICE of Georgia. Mr. Chairman, I demand a recorded vote.

The CHAIRMAN. Pursuant to clause 6 of rule XVIII, further proceedings on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Georgia will be postponed. The Clerk will read.

The Clerk read as follows:

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE BASE CLOSURE ACCOUNT 2005

For deposit into the Department of Defense Base Closure Account 2005, established by section 2906A(a)(1) of the Defense Base Closure and Realignment Act of 1990 (10 U.S.C. 2687 note), \$8,174,315,000, to remain available until expended.

ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS

SEC. 101. None of the funds made available in this title shall be expended for payments under a cost-plus-a-fixed-fee contract for construction, where cost estimates exceed \$25,000, to be performed within the United States, except Alaska, without the specific approval in writing of the Secretary of Defense setting forth the reasons therefor.

SEC. 102. Funds made available in this title for construction shall be available for hire of passenger motor vehicles.

SEC. 103. Funds made available in this title for construction may be used for advances to the Federal Highway Administration, Department of Transportation, for the construction of access roads as authorized by section 210 of title 23, United States Code, when projects authorized therein are certified as important to the national defense by the Secretary of Defense.

SEC. 104. None of the funds made available in this title may be used to begin construction of new bases in the United States for which specific appropriations have not been made.

Mr. EDWARDS. Mr. Chairman, I move to strike the last word, and I yield to the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. BISHOP).

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Mr. Chairman, thank you very much for yielding.

Mr. Chairman, the prevalence of HIV/AIDS among veterans who access the VA health care system is markedly higher than that of the general population. Furthermore, barriers within this system contribute to already late diagnoses of HIV among veterans. Early diagnosis is crucial because the sooner an HIV-infected person begins treatment, the more manageable and the more cost effective their treatment will be.

I speak today as a member of the subcommittee with concern about the impact of HIV/AIDS on veterans, not only in Georgia, but throughout the Southeast and every major city around the Nation.

The need for action on this issue, Mr. Chairman, is exemplified by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's recent Heightened Response to HIV/AIDS in African American Communities initiative. These actions follow the September 2006 release of the CDC's revised HIV testing guidelines, which advise HIV testing become a routine part of medical care.

The VA is the largest integrated health care system in the United States and, therefore, the largest provider of HIV care in the country. However, VA's current HIV testing policy is based on an outdated testing model which is inconsistent with the CDC guidelines.

Compared to the general population, the prevalence of HIV infections is higher among those accessing the VA health care system. A recent study that was conducted by a VA researcher found that at the time of diagnosis 55 percent of HIV-positive veterans had already developed Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome, or AIDS, which takes roughly 10 years to develop after it's initially contracted.

Even more disturbing is the fact that most of these veterans had accessed the VA health care system on an average of six times before they were ever diagnosed with this disease. This outdated VA HIV testing policy denies veterans sensible and what is now recommended as standard access to HIV screening in other health care systems.

I applaud the chairman for his leadership in making health care for veterans a priority in the VA appropriations bill. Mr. Chairman, I'm hoping that we can work together to further explore this important issue and address it in an appropriate way as we move forward on the VA Appropriations measure for fiscal 2008.

At this point, I'd like to ask the chairman of the subcommittee if he would be so kind as to yield to Mr. JACKSON from Illinois to speak to the issue of HIV prevalence among veterans.

Mr. EDWARDS. Let me say that I thank both the gentleman from Illinois and the gentleman from Georgia for their leadership on this important issue. I look forward to working with them and the Veterans' Affairs Committee and our subcommittee to address the needs and pursue the solutions that you have proposed.

Mr. Chairman, I yield to the gentleman from Illinois.

Mr. JACKSON of Illinois. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. Chairman, let me first thank my friend from Georgia (Mr. BISHOP) for his remarks and for his leadership in bringing this topic to the attention of our colleagues. I would also like to recognize the timeliness of his comments, as National HIV Testing Day is on June 27.

The gravity of this issue cannot be understated, and I hope to work with Mr. BISHOP and lend my support to address the veterans who suffer from this interminable disease.

Chicago is the epicenter of HIV/AIDS in Illinois. Roughly 70 percent of reported AIDS cases in the State are in Chicago. Minorities account for approximately 69 percent of the city's total population, but represent 81 percent recently diagnosed AIDS cases. Minorities constitute 20 percent of veterans in Illinois; yet the trend of HIV/AIDS among the State population and the higher prevalence of HIV/AIDS among veterans in general demonstrates minority veterans are disproportionately affected by this disease.

HIV/AIDS has had a significant impact on veterans across the country. Combating the spread of this disease through testing and education is not only important to our communities, but vital for the health of all Americans.

I want to thank the chairman for yielding me the time and thank Mr. BISHOP for his leadership.

Mr. EDWARDS. I want to thank Mr. JACKSON and Mr. BISHOP for your leadership on this. By exercising early intervention, we can save the lives of thousands of America's veterans and prevent them from having HIV or AIDS. It will be a tremendous service to those who have served our country in uniform, and I look forward to working with both gentlemen as we go to conference committee and as we work with the Veterans' Affairs Committee to address this serious national problem.

The CHAIRMAN. The Clerk will read. The Clerk read as follows:

SEC. 105. None of the funds made available in this title shall be used for purchase of land or land easements in excess of 100 percent of the value as determined by the Army Corps of Engineers or the Naval Facilities Engineering Command, except: (1) where there is a determination of value by a Federal court; (2) purchases negotiated by the Attorney General or the designee of the Attorney General; (3) where the estimated value is less than \$25,000; or (4) as otherwise determined by the Secretary of Defense to be in the public interest.

SEC. 106. None of the funds made available in this title shall be used to: (1) acquire land; (2) provide for site preparation; or (3) install utilities for any family housing, except housing for which funds have been made available in annual Acts making appropriations for military construction.

SEC. 107. None of the funds made available in this title for minor construction may be used to transfer or relocate any activity from one base or installation to another, without prior notification to the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress.

SEC. 108. None of the funds made available in this title may be used for the procurement of steel for any construction project or activity for which American steel producers, fabricators, and manufacturers have been denied the opportunity to compete for such steel procurement.

SEC. 109. None of the funds available to the Department of Defense for military construction or family housing during the current fiscal year may be used to pay real property taxes in any foreign nation.

SEC. 110. None of the funds made available in this title may be used to initiate a new in-

stallation overseas without prior notification to the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress.

SEC. 111. None of the funds made available in this title may be obligated for architect and engineer contracts estimated by the Government to exceed \$500,000 for projects to be accomplished in Japan, in any North Atlantic Treaty Organization member country, or in countries bordering the Arabian Sea, unless such contracts are awarded to United States firms or United States firms in joint venture with host nation firms.

SEC. 112. None of the funds made available in this title for military construction in the United States territories and possessions in the Pacific and on Kwajalein Atoll, or in countries bordering the Arabian Sea, may be used to award any contract estimated by the Government to exceed \$1,000,000 to a foreign contractor: *Provided*, That this section shall not be applicable to contract awards for which the lowest responsive and responsible bid of a United States contractor exceeds the lowest responsive and responsible bid of a foreign contractor by greater than 20 percent: *Provided further*, That this section shall not apply to contract awards for military construction on Kwajalein Atoll for which the lowest responsive and responsible bid is submitted by a Marshallese contractor.

SEC. 113. The Secretary of Defense is to inform the appropriate committees of both Houses of Congress, including the Committees on Appropriations, of the plans and scope of any proposed military exercise involving United States personnel 30 days prior to its occurring, if amounts expended for construction, either temporary or permanent, are anticipated to exceed \$100,000.

SEC. 114. Not more than 20 percent of the funds made available in this title which are limited for obligation during the current fiscal year shall be obligated during the last two months of the fiscal year.

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

SEC. 115. Funds appropriated to the Department of Defense for construction in prior years shall be available for construction authorized for each such military department by the authorizations enacted into law during the current session of Congress.

SEC. 116. For military construction or family housing projects that are being completed with funds otherwise expired or lapsed for obligation, expired or lapsed funds may be used to pay the cost of associated supervision, inspection, overhead, engineering and design on those projects and on subsequent claims, if any.

SEC. 117. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, any funds made available to a military department or defense agency for the construction of military projects may be obligated for a military construction project or contract, or for any portion of such a project or contract, at any time before the end of the fourth fiscal year after the fiscal year for which funds for such project were made available, if the funds obligated for such project: (1) are obligated from funds available for military construction projects; and (2) do not exceed the amount appropriated for such project, plus any amount by which the cost of such project is increased pursuant to law.

SEC. 118. The Secretary of Defense is to provide the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress with an annual report by February 15, containing details of the specific actions proposed to be taken by the Department of Defense during the current fiscal year to encourage other member nations of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization, Japan, Korea, and United States allies bordering the Arabian Sea to assume a greater share of the common defense burden of such nations and the United States.

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

SEC. 119. In addition to any other transfer authority available to the Department of Defense, proceeds deposited to the Department of Defense Base Closure Account established by section 207(a)(1) of the Defense Authorization Amendments and Base Closure and Realignment Act (10 U.S.C. 2687 note) pursuant to section 207(a)(2)(C) of such Act, may be transferred to the account established by section 2906(a)(1) of the Defense Base Closure and Realignment Act of 1990 (10 U.S.C. 2687 note), to be merged with, and to be available for the same purposes and the same time period as that account.

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

SEC. 120. Subject to 30 days prior notification to the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress, such additional amounts as may be determined by the Secretary of Defense may be transferred to: (1) the Department of Defense Family Housing Improvement Fund from amounts appropriated for construction in "Family Housing" accounts, to be merged with and to be available for the same purposes and for the same period of time as amounts appropriated directly to the Fund; or (2) the Department of Defense Military Unaccompanied Housing Improvement Fund from amounts appropriated for construction of military unaccompanied housing in "Military Construction" accounts, to be merged with and to be available for the same purposes and for the same period of time as amounts appropriated directly to the Fund: *Provided*, That appropriations made available to the Funds shall be available to cover the costs, as defined in section 502(5) of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974, of direct loans or loan guarantees issued by the Department of Defense pursuant to the provisions of subchapter IV of chapter 169 of title 10, United States Code, pertaining to alternative means of acquiring and improving military family housing, military unaccompanied housing, and supporting facilities.

SEC. 121. None of the funds made available in this title may be obligated for Partnership for Peace Programs in the New Independent States of the former Soviet Union.

SEC. 122. (a) Not later than 60 days before issuing any solicitation for a contract with the private sector for military family housing the Secretary of the military department concerned shall submit to the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress the notice described in subsection (b).

(b)(1) A notice referred to in subsection (a) is a notice of any guarantee (including the making of mortgage or rental payments) proposed to be made by the Secretary to the private party under the contract involved in the event of—

(A) the closure or realignment of the installation for which housing is provided under the contract;

(B) a reduction in force of units stationed at such installation; or

(C) the extended deployment overseas of units stationed at such installation.

(2) Each notice under this subsection shall specify the nature of the guarantee involved and assess the extent and likelihood, if any, of the liability of the Federal Government with respect to the guarantee.

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

SEC. 123. In addition to any other transfer authority available to the Department of Defense, amounts may be transferred from the accounts established by sections 2906(a)(1) and 2906A(a)(1) of the Defense Base Closure and Realignment Act of 1990 (10 U.S.C. 2687 note), to the fund established by section 1013(d) of the Demonstration Cities and Metropolitan Development Act of 1966 (42 U.S.C.

3374) to pay for expenses associated with the Homeowners Assistance Program. Any amounts transferred shall be merged with and be available for the same purposes and for the same time period as the fund to which transferred.

SEC. 124. Notwithstanding this or any other provision of law, funds made available in this title for operation and maintenance of family housing shall be the exclusive source of funds for repair and maintenance of all family housing units, including general or flag officer quarters: *Provided*, That not more than \$35,000 per unit may be spent annually for the maintenance and repair of any general or flag officer quarters without 30 days prior notification to the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress, except that an after-the-fact notification shall be submitted if the limitation is exceeded solely due to costs associated with environmental remediation that could not be reasonably anticipated at the time of the budget submission: *Provided further*, That the Under Secretary of Defense (Comptroller) is to report annually to the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress all operation and maintenance expenditures for each individual general or flag officer quarters for the prior fiscal year.

SEC. 125. None of the funds made available in this title under the heading "North Atlantic Treaty Organization Security Investment Program", and no funds appropriated for any fiscal year before fiscal year 2008 for that program that remain available for obligation, may be obligated or expended for the conduct of studies of missile defense.

AMENDMENT NO. 8 OFFERED BY MR. FRANKS OF ARIZONA

Mr. FRANKS of Arizona. Mr. Chairman, I offer an amendment.

The CHAIRMAN. The Clerk will designate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

Amendment No. 8 offered by Mr. FRANKS of Arizona:

Page 19, beginning on line 15, strike section 125.

The CHAIRMAN. Pursuant to the order of the House of today, the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. FRANKS) and a Member opposed each will control 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Arizona.

Mr. FRANKS of Arizona. Mr. Chairman, in an age of sophisticated missile development and rampant nuclear proliferation, the United States must continue to invest its attention and resources in developing and fielding defenses to stay ahead of the ominous threat of ballistic missiles.

It is critical that the United States continue to work with our friends and allies who wish to cooperate in our mission to develop a robust ballistic missile defense against our common enemies.

The United States is currently working with NATO and negotiating with European countries about the possibility of placing a ballistic missile interceptor site in Europe. This is an example of a missile defense opportunity that could offer protection for the U.S. homeland and our European friends from a perilous threat that we share, ballistic missiles potentially carrying nuclear warheads, being launched from rogue nations such as Iran.

Mr. Chairman, incidentally, Iran is projected to have missiles capable of reaching the United States homeland within 7 years.

As it currently stands, this bill prohibits funds made available under the NATO Security Investment Program from being obligated or expended to conduct studies on missile defense. My amendment would strike this section. Mr. Chairman, in the midst of the current debate regarding the need for greater international support of missile defense, we must not arbitrarily prevent our allies from joining with us to pursue these vital and common goals.

For the sake of defending our cities and our freedom, I encourage our colleagues to support our Nation's policy to build a robust, layered ballistic missile defense; to support our allies against common threats; and to support this amendment.

Mr. Chairman, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. EDWARDS. Mr. Chairman, I move to strike the last word.

Mr. Chairman, I just want to make a few points about this amendment, and I will be glad to accept the amendment when I'm completed. Let me just make a few points that are clear, though.

Section 125 prohibits the use of funds appropriated to the NATO Security Investment Program for studies of missile defense. The history of this is that in the fiscal year 2004 Military Construction bill, it was a Republican majority that put this language into the bill which has been repeated year after year without any controversy or serious discussion. It grew out of concerns that large sums of these NATO funds were being spent on expensive studies.

I do want to emphasize and clarify that this provision relates to the studies for a NATO missile defense system that is not related to the proposal by the administration to pursue and place a missile defense site in Poland and in the Czech Republic. That is a U.S. initiative, not a NATO initiative, and I want Members to understand that distinction.

I also want to make it clear that I believe NATO Security Investment Program funds should focus primarily on building current NATO infrastructure, including critical facilities in the NATO mission in Afghanistan. Because these funds are limited, I think they should be wisely and directed to where they have the greatest impact in support of our military troops around the world.

With that being said, I will accept the gentleman's amendment.

Mr. FRANKS of Arizona. Mr. Chairman, I thank the gentleman.

I would only add that it is vitally important from our perspective that NATO countries be encouraged to cooperate with the things that we're doing there and some of the countries that we're working with for the European missile site. We understand that everything you said is correct. We also

believe that it doesn't make sense to single out missile defense as the only study that would be prohibited under this section.

And there may come a day when we will have to apologize to the American public for putting so much emphasis on building expensive missile defense capabilities, and if that happens, I will be willing to stand here and do that, but it would be far harder for me to apologize to the American people for failing to do everything that we could on every front to protect the homeland and our European allies and our soldiers and warfighters abroad from the most dangerous offensive weapons that have ever come upon humanity.

Mr. Chairman, I yield back my time.

The CHAIRMAN. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. FRANKS).

The amendment was agreed to.

□ 1400

Mr. EDWARDS. Mr. Chairman, I move to strike the last word.

The CHAIRMAN. The gentleman from Texas is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. EDWARDS. Mr. Chairman, I yield to the gentleman of South Carolina (Mr. BROWN) for the purpose of a colloquy.

Mr. BROWN of South Carolina. Mr. Chairman, I would like to discuss a very serious battle our veterans are waging here at home, a battle against ALS, better known as Lou Gehrig's disease.

Several independent and government studies have found that military veterans are at a greater risk of dying from Lou Gehrig's disease than those who have never served in the military. In fact, veterans are at a 60 percent greater risk to develop ALS. Lou Gehrig's disease is a horrific disease that robs a person of the ability to control their muscles.

Unfortunately, I have met firsthand and have knowledge of the true nature of ALS and its impact on veterans. I have watched the disease attack a good friend of mine, Tom Mikolajcik, a retired Air Force brigadier general. He was diagnosed with ALS in 2003. Since then I have seen the disease take a once-powerful man and rob him of nearly all of his physical abilities.

Mr. Chairman, only certain veterans with ALS who served in theatre during the 1991 Persian Gulf War are currently presumed to be eligible for service-connected benefits, and there are significant research needs related to the causes and treatment of ALS. As such, we must begin to take the steps necessary to not only discover why our veterans are at greater risk of ALS and to find treatments for the disease but also to help ensure that they have timely access to needed VA benefits.

I hope that you and the committee will work in conference and ensure the resources of the VA are directed towards meeting the research and benefit needs of all veterans who are diagnosed with ALS.

Mr. EDWARDS. Mr. Chairman, reclaiming my time, let me thank the gentleman for bringing this important problem and issue before the House. It is something we have a responsibility to deal with. I am proud to say that Mr. WICKER and I worked with the Members of our subcommittee to ensure that we had \$69 million increase in this bill to increase VA health care research funding above the President's request.

I think we have had the VA research budget at a stable number for a number of years. I think, given our war in Iraq and Afghanistan and the challenges we face trying to support our veterans from past combat, as you have pointed out, this additional research money is much needed and very well deserved.

While it hasn't been the tradition of the Congress to try to earmark funds, we have made this a peer review process to let the VA in its peer review process determine what are the highest priority needs for research. I, for one, would certainly hope that it would take a serious look at the challenge of Lou Gehrig's disease and its impact on veterans who have been exposed to various chemical agents in their service.

I would point out, as the gentleman well knows, that right now the Bronx VA Medical Center has worked on research to improve the identification of this disease. With the gentleman's leadership, we will do even more.

The CHAIRMAN. The Clerk will read. The Clerk read as follows:

SEC. 126. Whenever the Secretary of Defense or any other official of the Department of Defense is requested by the subcommittee on Military Construction, Veterans Affairs, and Related Agencies of the Committee on Appropriations of the House of Representatives or the subcommittee on Military Construction, Veterans Affairs, and Related Agencies of the Committee on Appropriations of the Senate to respond to a question or inquiry submitted by the chairman or another member of that subcommittee pursuant to a subcommittee hearing or other activity, the Secretary (or other official) shall respond to the request, in writing, within 21 days of the date on which the request is transmitted to the Secretary (or other official).

Mr. EDWARDS. Mr. Chairman, I move to strike the last word.

The CHAIRMAN. The gentleman from Texas is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. EDWARDS. Mr. Chairman, at this time I would like to yield to the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. BISHOP), a senior member of the Military Construction and Veterans' Affairs Appropriations Subcommittee, someone who has fought long and hard in this House on behalf of our servicemen and -women and their families and our veterans. I offer him an opportunity to talk about provisions of the bill.

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. I thank the gentleman, our subcommittee chairman, for his tremendous work and bringing our bill to the floor.

Mr. Chairman, I am very pleased to rise in full support of our FY 2008 Military Construction and Veterans Affairs and Related Agencies appropriations bill.

As a member of the subcommittee, I am extremely proud of the work that the subcommittee and members on both sides of the aisle have done in crafting a bill which truly supports America's servicemen and -women and their families by boosting military construction funding so that they can have more effective training facilities, better housing, health care and day-care facilities, providing an unprecedented \$21.4 billion investment in military construction, family housing and BRAC, or nearly \$207 million more than the President's request.

Just as important, I am extremely proud to join my subcommittee colleagues in recommending a historic expansion in support and resources for our Nation's veterans. This bill includes the largest single increase in the 77-year history of the Veterans Administration, increasing the VA budget by \$6.7 billion above the 2007 level and \$3.8 billion above the President's request.

For the first time in history, funding for VA medical care exceeds the budget of the veterans service organization's independent budget that has been going on now for decades. This will ensure quality health care for 5.8 million patients, including about 263,000 Iraq and Afghanistan veterans, who the VA will treat, expectantly, in FY 2008.

This bill will provide veterans with health care and benefits that we have promised them, resulting in the hiring of more qualified doctors and nurses to improve medical services to our veterans and to reduce the waiting times for doctor appointments and to provide more help to veterans suffering from traumatic brain injury, PTSD, mental health care issues and lost limbs to rebuild their lives. This is truly an accomplishment that all of us, as Members of this august body, should be very proud of.

Of note, our bill also provides funding that gives much-needed nonrecurring maintenance of the VA health care facilities, \$500 million above the President's request to prevent a Walter Reed-type situation from occurring in the VA medical system. It will significantly reduce the 400,000 claims backlog of veterans that are waiting for disability and other benefit determinations.

It will provide for better barracks, housing, training facilities for our troops when they return from combat through an unprecedented \$24.4 billion investment in military construction, family housing and BRAC, \$207 million more than the President's request.

It provides funds to grow our military forces to begin the process of supporting an additional 65,000 Army, 27,000 Marine and 9,000 National Guard troops that will increase our ultimate end strength.

I have the privilege and the honor of representing Fort Benning and Marine Corps Logistics Base, Albany, and the men and women who work, live and train at this great military facility, who are defending and serving our

great Nation with dignity, honor and distinction.

As such, I was very pleased that our subcommittee saw fit to include full funding for the 2005 Base Realignment and Closure Account, which is also known as BRAC, at the level of \$8.2 billion. This level of funding will be critically important to military facilities, such as Fort Benning, which are expected to see and experience significant new personnel as a result of BRAC and the global repositioning of our forces around the world.

While we in the Columbus area continue to have some concerns with respect to what impact the BRAC process may have on our local school systems in terms of potential dramatic increases in school enrollment, we continue to be encouraged by the interest and support shown by our colleagues on the subcommittee, particularly Mr. EDWARDS, our chairman.

Finally, I would like to recognize and thank the staff of the subcommittee, Carol Murphy, Mary Arnold, Walter Hearne, Tim Bishop and Donna Shabaz, majority staff; Liz Dawson, Deana Baron and Jamie Swafford, minority staff; and, of course, Michael Reed on my staff for their hard work.

Mr. EDWARDS. Mr. Chairman, I ask unanimous consent that the remainder of title I and all of title II be considered as read, printed in the RECORD, and open to amendment at any point.

I believe this has been cleared with the minority leadership.

The CHAIRMAN. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Texas?

There was no objection.

The text of that portion of the bill is as follows:

SEC. 127. Amounts contained in the Ford Island Improvement Account established by subsection (h) of section 2814 of title 10, United States Code, are appropriated and shall be available until expended for the purposes specified in subsection (i)(1) of such section or until transferred pursuant to subsection (i)(3) of such section.

SEC. 128. None of the funds made available in this title, or in any Act making appropriations for military construction which remain available for obligation, may be obligated or expended to carry out a military construction, land acquisition, or family housing project at or for a military installation approved for closure, or at a military installation for the purposes of supporting a function that has been approved for realignment to another installation, in 2005 under the Defense Base Closure and Realignment Act of 1990 (part A of title XXIX of Public Law 101-510; 10 U.S.C. 2687 note), unless such a project at a military installation approved for realignment will support a continuing mission or function at that installation or a new mission or function that is planned for that installation, or unless the Secretary of Defense certifies that the cost to the United States of carrying out such project would be less than the cost to the United States of canceling such project, or if the project is at an active component base that shall be established as an enclave or in the case of projects having multi-agency use, that another Government agency has indicated it will assume ownership of the completed project. The Secretary of Defense may not transfer funds

made available as a result of this limitation from any military construction project, land acquisition, or family housing project to another account or use such funds for another purpose or project without the prior approval of the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress. This section shall not apply to military construction projects, land acquisition, or family housing projects for which the project is vital to the national security or the protection of health, safety, or environmental quality: *Provided*, That the Secretary of Defense shall notify the congressional defense committees within seven days of a decision to carry out such a military construction project.

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

SEC. 129. During the 5-year period after appropriations available in this Act to the Department of Defense for military construction and family housing operation and maintenance and construction have expired for obligation, upon a determination that such appropriations will not be necessary for the liquidation of obligations or for making authorized adjustments to such appropriations for obligations incurred during the period of availability of such appropriations, unobligated balances of such appropriations may be transferred into the appropriation "Foreign Currency Fluctuations, Construction, Defense", to be merged with and to be available for the same time period and for the same purposes as the appropriation to which transferred.

SEC. 130. None of the funds in this title shall be used for any activity related to the construction of an Outlying Landing Field in Washington County, North Carolina.

TITLE II

DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

VETERANS BENEFITS ADMINISTRATION

COMPENSATION AND PENSIONS

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

For the payment of compensation benefits to or on behalf of veterans and a pilot program for disability examinations as authorized by section 107 and chapters 11, 13, 18, 51, 53, 55, and 61 of title 38, United States Code; pension benefits to or on behalf of veterans as authorized by chapters 15, 51, 53, 55, and 61 of title 38, United States Code; and burial benefits, the Reinstated Entitlement Program for Survivors, emergency and other officers' retirement pay, adjusted-service credits and certificates, payment of premiums due on commercial life insurance policies guaranteed under the provisions of title IV of the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act (50 U.S.C. App. 541 et seq.) and for other benefits as authorized by sections 107, 1312, 1977, and 2106, and chapters 23, 51, 53, 55, and 61 of title 38, United States Code, \$41,236,322,000, to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That not to exceed \$25,033,000 of the amount appropriated under this heading shall be reimbursed to "General operating expenses" and "Medical administration" for necessary expenses in implementing the provisions of chapters 51, 53, and 55 of title 38, United States Code, the funding source for which is specifically provided as the "Compensation and pensions" appropriation: *Provided further*, That such sums as may be earned on an actual qualifying patient basis, shall be reimbursed to "Medical care collections fund" to augment the funding of individual medical facilities for nursing home care provided to pensioners as authorized.

READJUSTMENT BENEFITS

For the payment of readjustment and rehabilitation benefits to or on behalf of veterans as authorized by chapters 21, 30, 31, 34, 35, 36, 39, 51, 53, 55, and 61 of title 38, United States Code, \$3,300,289,000, to remain available until

expended: *Provided*, That expenses for rehabilitation program services and assistance which the Secretary is authorized to provide under subsection (a) of section 3104 of title 38, United States Code, other than under paragraphs (1), (2), (5), and (11) of that subsection, shall be charged to this account.

VETERANS INSURANCE AND INDEMNITIES

For military and naval insurance, national service life insurance, servicemen's indemnities, service-disabled veterans insurance, and veterans mortgage life insurance as authorized by title 38, United States Code, chapters 19 and 21, \$41,250,000, to remain available until expended.

VETERANS HOUSING BENEFIT PROGRAM FUND PROGRAM ACCOUNT

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

For the cost of direct and guaranteed loans, such sums as may be necessary to carry out the program, as authorized by subchapters I through III of chapter 37 of title 38, United States Code: *Provided*, That such costs, including the cost of modifying such loans, shall be as defined in section 502 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974: *Provided further*, That during fiscal year 2008, within the resources available, not to exceed \$500,000 in gross obligations for direct loans are authorized for specially adapted housing loans.

In addition, for administrative expenses to carry out the direct and guaranteed loan programs, \$154,562,000, which may be transferred to and merged with the appropriation for "General operating expenses".

VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION LOANS PROGRAM ACCOUNT

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

For the cost of direct loans, \$71,000, as authorized by chapter 31 of title 38, United States Code: *Provided*, That such costs, including the cost of modifying such loans, shall be as defined in section 502 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974: *Provided further*, That funds made available under this heading are available to subsidize gross obligations for the principal amount of direct loans not to exceed \$3,287,000.

In addition, for administrative expenses necessary to carry out the direct loan program, \$311,000, which may be transferred to and merged with the appropriation for "General operating expenses".

NATIVE AMERICAN VETERAN HOUSING LOAN PROGRAM ACCOUNT

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

For administrative expenses to carry out the direct loan program authorized by subchapter V of chapter 37 of title 38, United States Code, \$628,000, which may be transferred to and merged with the appropriation for "General operating expenses": *Provided*, That no new loans in excess of \$30,000,000 may be made in fiscal year 2008.

GUARANTEED TRANSITIONAL HOUSING LOANS FOR HOMELESS VETERANS PROGRAM ACCOUNT

For the administrative expenses to carry out the guaranteed transitional housing loan program authorized by subchapter VI of chapter 37 of title 38, United States Code, not to exceed \$750,000 of the amounts appropriated by this Act for "General operating expenses" and "Medical administration" may be expended.

VETERANS HEALTH ADMINISTRATION MEDICAL SERVICES

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

For necessary expenses for furnishing, as authorized by law, inpatient and outpatient care and treatment to beneficiaries of the Department of Veterans Affairs and veterans described in section 1705(a) of title 38, United

States Code, including care and treatment in facilities not under the jurisdiction of the Department, and including medical supplies and equipment, food services, and salaries and expenses of health-care employees hired under title 38, United States Code, and aid to State homes as authorized by section 1741 of title 38, United States Code; \$28,906,400,000, plus reimbursements, of which not less than \$2,900,000,000 shall be expended for specialty mental health care; not less than \$130,000,000 shall be expended for the homeless grants and per diem program; not less than \$428,873,754 shall be expended for the substance abuse program; and not less than \$100,275,000 shall be expended for blind rehabilitation services: *Provided*, That of the funds made available under this heading, not to exceed \$1,100,000,000 shall be available until September 30, 2009: *Provided further*, That, notwithstanding any other provision of law, the Secretary of Veterans Affairs shall establish a priority for the provision of medical treatment for veterans who have service-connected disabilities, lower income, or have special needs: *Provided further*, That, notwithstanding any other provision of law, the Secretary of Veterans Affairs shall give priority funding for the provision of basic medical benefits to veterans in enrollment priority groups 1 through 6: *Provided further*, That, notwithstanding any other provision of law, the Secretary of Veterans Affairs may authorize the dispensing of prescription drugs from Veterans Health Administration facilities to enrolled veterans with privately written prescriptions based on requirements established by the Secretary: *Provided further*, That the implementation of the program described in the previous proviso shall incur no additional cost to the Department of Veterans Affairs: *Provided further*, That for the DOD-VA Health Care Sharing Incentive Fund, as authorized by section 811(d) of title 38, United States Code, a minimum of \$15,000,000, to remain available until expended, for any purpose authorized by section 811 of title 38, United States Code.

MEDICAL ADMINISTRATION

For necessary expenses in the administration of the medical, hospital, nursing home, domiciliary, construction, supply, and research activities, as authorized by law; administrative expenses in support of capital policy activities; and administrative and legal expenses of the Department for collecting and recovering amounts owed the Department as authorized under chapter 17 of title 38, United States Code, and the Federal Medical Care Recovery Act (42 U.S.C. 2651 et seq.); \$3,635,600,000, plus reimbursements, of which \$250,000,000 shall be available until September 30, 2009.

MEDICAL FACILITIES

For necessary expenses for the maintenance and operation of hospitals, nursing homes, and domiciliary facilities, and other necessary facilities of the Veterans Health Administration; for administrative expenses in support of planning, design, project management, real property acquisition and disposition, construction, and renovation of any facility under the jurisdiction or for the use of the Department; for oversight, engineering, and architectural activities not charged to project costs; for repairing, altering, improving, or providing facilities in the several hospitals and homes under the jurisdiction of the Department, not otherwise provided for, either by contract or by the hire of temporary employees and purchase of materials; for leases of facilities; and for laundry services, \$4,100,000,000, plus reimbursements, of which \$250,000,000 shall be available until September 30, 2009: *Provided*, That \$300,000,000 for non-recurring maintenance provided under this heading shall be allocated in a

manner not subject to the Veterans Equitable Resource Allocation.

MEDICAL AND PROSTHETIC RESEARCH

For necessary expenses in carrying out programs of medical and prosthetic research and development as authorized by chapter 73 of title 38, United States Code, \$480,000,000, plus reimbursements, to remain available until September 30, 2009.

DEPARTMENTAL ADMINISTRATION

GENERAL OPERATING EXPENSES

For necessary operating expenses of the Department of Veterans Affairs, not otherwise provided for, including administrative expenses in support of Department-Wide capital planning, management and policy activities, uniforms, or allowances therefor; not to exceed \$25,000 for official reception and representation expenses; hire of passenger motor vehicles; and reimbursement of the General Services Administration for security guard services and the Department of Defense for the cost of overseas employee mail, \$1,598,500,000: *Provided*, That expenses for services and assistance authorized under paragraphs (1), (2), (5), and (11) of section 3104(a) of title 38, United States Code, that the Secretary of Veterans Affairs determines are necessary to enable entitled veterans: (1) to the maximum extent feasible, to become employable and to obtain and maintain suitable employment; or (2) to achieve maximum independence in daily living, shall be charged to this account: *Provided further*, That the Veterans Benefits Administration shall be funded at not less than \$1,324,957,000: *Provided further*, That of the funds made available under this heading, not to exceed \$75,000,000 shall be available for obligation until September 30, 2009: *Provided further*, That from the funds made available under this heading, the Veterans Benefits Administration may purchase (on a one-for-one replacement basis only) up to two passenger motor vehicles for use in operations of that Administration in Manila, Philippines.

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY SYSTEMS

For necessary expenses for information technology systems and telecommunications support, including developmental information systems and operational information systems and pay and associated cost for operations and maintenance associated staff; for the capital asset acquisition of information technology systems, including management and related contractual costs of said acquisitions, including contractual costs associated with operations authorized by chapter 3109 of title 5, United States Code, \$1,859,217,000, to remain available until September 30, 2009: *Provided*, That none of these funds may be obligated until the Secretary of Veterans Affairs submits to the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress, and such Committees approve, a plan for expenditure that: (1) meets the capital planning and investment control review requirements established by the Office of Management and Budget; (2) complies with the Department of Veterans Affairs enterprise architecture; (3) conforms with an established enterprise life cycle methodology; and (4) complies with the acquisition rules, requirements, guidelines, and systems acquisition management practices of the Federal Government: *Provided further*, That within 30 days of the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Veterans Affairs shall submit to the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress a reprogramming base letter which provides, by project, the costs included in this appropriation.

NATIONAL CEMETERY ADMINISTRATION

For necessary expenses of the National Cemetery Administration for operations and

maintenance, not otherwise provided for, including uniforms or allowances therefor; cemetery expenses as authorized by law; purchase of one passenger motor vehicle for use in cemetery operations; and hire of passenger motor vehicles, \$170,000,000, of which not to exceed \$7,800,000 shall be available until September 30, 2009.

OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL

For necessary expenses of the Office of Inspector General in carrying out the provisions of the Inspector General Act of 1978 (5 U.S.C. App.), \$76,500,000, of which \$3,630,000 shall remain available until September 30, 2009.

CONSTRUCTION, MAJOR PROJECTS

For constructing, altering, extending, and improving any of the facilities, including parking projects, under the jurisdiction or for the use of the Department of Veterans Affairs, or for any of the purposes set forth in sections 316, 2404, 2406, 8102, 8103, 8106, 8108, 8109, 8110, and 8122 of title 38, United States Code, including planning, architectural and engineering services, construction management services, maintenance or guarantee period services costs associated with equipment guarantees provided under the project, services of claims analysts, offsite utility and storm drainage system construction costs, and site acquisition, where the estimated cost of a project is more than the amount set forth in section 8104(a)(3)(A) of title 38, United States Code, or where funds for a project were made available in a previous major project appropriation, \$1,410,800,000, to remain available until expended, of which \$2,000,000 shall be to make reimbursements as provided in section 13 of the Contract Disputes Act of 1978 (41 U.S.C. 612) for claims paid for contract disputes: *Provided*, That except for advance planning activities, including needs assessments which may or may not lead to capital investments, and other capital asset management related activities, including portfolio development and management activities, and investment strategy studies funded through the advance planning fund and the planning and design activities funded through the design fund, including needs assessments which may or may not lead to capital investments, none of the funds appropriated under this heading shall be used for any project which has not been approved by the Congress in the budgetary process: *Provided further*, That funds provided in this appropriation for fiscal year 2008, for each approved project shall be obligated: (1) by the awarding of a construction documents contract by September 30, 2008; and (2) by the awarding of a construction contract by September 30, 2009: *Provided further*, That the Secretary of Veterans Affairs shall promptly submit to the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress a written report on any approved major construction project for which obligations are not incurred within the time limitations established above: *Provided further*, That none of the funds appropriated in this or any other Act may be used to reduce the mission, services, or infrastructure, including land, of the 18 facilities on the Capital Asset Realignment for Enhanced Services (CARES) list requiring further study, as specified by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs, without prior approval of the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress.

CONSTRUCTION, MINOR PROJECTS

For constructing, altering, extending, and improving any of the facilities, including parking projects, under the jurisdiction or for the use of the Department of Veterans Affairs, including planning and assessments of needs which may lead to capital invest-

ments, architectural and engineering services, maintenance or guarantee period services costs associated with equipment guarantees provided under the project, services of claims analysts, offsite utility and storm drainage system construction costs, and site acquisition, or for any of the purposes set forth in sections 316, 2404, 2406, 8102, 8103, 8106, 8108, 8109, 8110, 8122, and 8162 of title 38, United States Code, where the estimated cost of a project is equal to or less than the amount set forth in section 8104(a)(3)(A) of title 38, United States Code, \$615,000,000, to remain available until expended, along with unobligated balances of previous "Construction, minor projects" appropriations which are hereby made available for any project where the estimated cost is equal to or less than the amount set forth in such section: *Provided*, That funds in this account shall be available for: (1) repairs to any of the non-medical facilities under the jurisdiction or for the use of the Department which are necessary because of loss or damage caused by any natural disaster or catastrophe; and (2) temporary measures necessary to prevent or to minimize further loss by such causes: *Provided further*, That within 30 days of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Veterans Affairs shall submit to the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress a reprogramming base letter which provides, by project, the costs included in this appropriation.

GRANTS FOR CONSTRUCTION OF STATE

EXTENDED CARE FACILITIES

For grants to assist States to acquire or construct State nursing home and domiciliary facilities and to remodel, modify, or alter existing hospital, nursing home, and domiciliary facilities in State homes, for furnishing care to veterans as authorized by sections 8131 through 8137 of title 38, United States Code, \$165,000,000, to remain available until expended.

GRANTS FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF STATE VETERANS CEMETERIES

For grants to assist States in establishing, expanding, or improving State veterans cemeteries as authorized by section 2408 of title 38, United States Code, \$37,000,000, to remain available until expended.

ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

SEC. 201. Any appropriation for fiscal year 2008 for "Compensation and pensions", "Readjustment benefits", and "Veterans insurance and indemnities" may be transferred as necessary to any other of the mentioned appropriations: *Provided*, That before a transfer may take place, the Secretary of Veterans Affairs shall request from the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress the authority to make the transfer and such Committees issue an approval, or absent a response, a period of 30 days has elapsed.

SEC. 202. Appropriations available in this title for salaries and expenses shall be available for services authorized by section 3109 of title 5, United States Code, hire of passenger motor vehicles; lease of a facility or land or both; and uniforms or allowances therefore, as authorized by sections 5901 through 5902 of title 5, United States Code.

SEC. 203. No appropriations in this title (except the appropriations for "Construction, major projects", and "Construction, minor projects") shall be available for the purchase of any site for or toward the construction of any new hospital or home.

SEC. 204. No appropriations in this title shall be available for hospitalization or examination of any persons (except beneficiaries entitled to such hospitalization or examination under the laws providing such benefits to veterans, and persons receiving

such treatment under sections 7901 through 7904 of title 5, United States Code, or the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5121 et seq.), unless reimbursement of the cost of such hospitalization or examination is made to the "Medical services" account at such rates as may be fixed by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs.

SEC. 205. Appropriations available in this title for "Compensation and pensions", "Readjustment benefits", and "Veterans insurance and indemnities" shall be available for payment of prior year accrued obligations required to be recorded by law against the corresponding prior year accounts within the last quarter of fiscal year 2007.

SEC. 206. Appropriations available in this title shall be available to pay prior year obligations of corresponding prior year appropriations accounts resulting from sections 3328(a), 3334, and 3712(a) of title 31, United States Code, except that if such obligations are from trust fund accounts they shall be payable only from "Compensation and pensions".

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

SEC. 207. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, during fiscal year 2008, the Secretary of Veterans Affairs shall, from the National Service Life Insurance Fund (38 U.S.C. 1920), the Veterans' Special Life Insurance Fund (38 U.S.C. 1923), and the United States Government Life Insurance Fund (38 U.S.C. 1955), reimburse the "General operating expenses" account for the cost of administration of the insurance programs financed through those accounts: *Provided*, That reimbursement shall be made only from the surplus earnings accumulated in such an insurance program during fiscal year 2008 that are available for dividends in that program after claims have been paid and actuarially determined reserves have been set aside: *Provided further*, That if the cost of administration of such an insurance program exceeds the amount of surplus earnings accumulated in that program, reimbursement shall be made only to the extent of such surplus earnings: *Provided further*, That the Secretary shall determine the cost of administration for fiscal year 2008 which is properly allocable to the provision of each such insurance program and to the provision of any total disability income insurance included in that insurance program.

SEC. 208. Amounts deducted from enhanced-use lease proceeds to reimburse an account for expenses incurred by that account during a prior fiscal year for providing enhanced-use lease services, may be obligated during the fiscal year in which the proceeds are received.

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

SEC. 209. Funds available in this title or funds for salaries and other administrative expenses shall also be available to reimburse the Office of Resolution Management of the Department of Veterans Affairs and the Office of Employment Discrimination Complaint Adjudication under section 319 of title 38, United States Code, for all services provided at rates which will recover actual costs but not exceed \$32,067,000 for the Office of Resolution Management and \$3,148,000 for the Office of Employment and Discrimination Complaint Adjudication: *Provided*, That payments may be made in advance for services to be furnished based on estimated costs: *Provided further*, That amounts received shall be credited to "General operating expenses" for use by the office that provided the service.

SEC. 210. No appropriations in this title shall be available to enter into any new lease of real property if the estimated annual rental is more than \$300,000 unless the Secretary

submits a report which the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress approve within 30 days following the date on which the report is received.

SEC. 211. No funds of the Department of Veterans Affairs shall be available for hospital care, nursing home care, or medical services provided to any person under chapter 17 of title 38, United States Code, for a non-service-connected disability described in section 1729(a)(2) of such title, unless that person has disclosed to the Secretary of Veterans Affairs, in such form as the Secretary may require, current, accurate third-party reimbursement information for purposes of section 1729 of such title: *Provided*, That the Secretary may recover, in the same manner as any other debt due the United States, the reasonable charges for such care or services from any person who does not make such disclosure as required: *Provided further*, That any amounts so recovered for care or services provided in a prior fiscal year may be obligated by the Secretary during the fiscal year in which amounts are received.

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

SEC. 212. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, at the discretion of the Secretary of Veterans Affairs, proceeds or revenues derived from enhanced-use leasing activities (including disposal) may be deposited into the "Construction, major projects" and "Construction, minor projects" accounts and be used for construction (including site acquisition and disposition), alterations, and improvements of any medical facility under the jurisdiction or for the use of the Department of Veterans Affairs. Such sums as realized are in addition to the amount provided for in "Construction, major projects" and "Construction, minor projects".

SEC. 213. Amounts made available under "Medical services" are available—

- (1) for furnishing recreational facilities, supplies, and equipment; and
- (2) for funeral expenses, burial expenses, and other expenses incidental to funerals and burials for beneficiaries receiving care in the Department.

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

SEC. 214. Such sums as may be deposited to the Medical Care Collections Fund pursuant to section 1729A of title 38, United States Code, may be transferred to "Medical services", to remain available until expended for the purposes of that account.

SEC. 215. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the Secretary of Veterans Affairs shall allow veterans who are eligible under existing Department of Veterans Affairs medical care requirements and who reside in Alaska to obtain medical care services from medical facilities supported by the Indian Health Service or tribal organizations. The Secretary shall: (1) limit the application of this provision to rural Alaskan veterans in areas where an existing Department of Veterans Affairs facility or Veterans Affairs-contracted service is unavailable; (2) require participating veterans and facilities to comply with all appropriate rules and regulations, as established by the Secretary; (3) require this provision to be consistent with Capital Asset Realignment for Enhanced Services activities; and (4) result in no additional cost to the Department of Veterans Affairs or the Indian Health Service.

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

SEC. 216. Such sums as may be deposited to the Department of Veterans Affairs Capital Asset Fund pursuant to section 8118 of title 38, United States Code, may be transferred to the "Construction, major projects" and "Construction, minor projects" accounts, to remain available until expended for the purposes of these accounts.

SEC. 217. None of the funds available to the Department of Veterans Affairs, in this or any other Act, may be used to replace the current system by which the Veterans Integrated Service Networks select and contract for diabetes monitoring supplies and equipment.

SEC. 218. None of the funds made available in this Act may be used to implement any policy prohibiting the Directors of the Veterans Integrated Service Networks from conducting outreach or marketing to enroll new veterans within their respective Networks.

SEC. 219. The Secretary of Veterans Affairs shall submit to the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress a quarterly report on the financial status of the Veterans Health Administration.

SEC. 220. Amounts made available for the "Information technology systems" account may be reprogrammed between projects: *Provided*, That no project may be increased or decreased by more than \$1,000,000 of cost before the Secretary submits to the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress a reprogramming request and the Committees issue an approval, or absent a response, a period of 30 days has elapsed.

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

SEC. 221. Any balances in prior year accounts established for the payment of benefits under the Reinstated Entitlement Program for Survivors shall be transferred to and merged with amounts available under the "Compensation and pensions" account, and receipts that would otherwise be credited to the accounts established for the payment of benefits under the Reinstated Entitlement Program for Survivors program shall be credited to amounts available under the "Compensation and pensions" account.

SEC. 222. Amounts made available for the "Construction, minor projects" account may be reprogrammed between projects: *Provided*, That no project may be increased or decreased by more than \$1,000,000 of cost before the Secretary submits to the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress a reprogramming request and the Committees issue an approval, or absent a response, a period of 30 days has elapsed.

AMENDMENT OFFERED BY MR. MORAN OF KANSAS

Mr. MORAN of Kansas. Mr. Chairman, I offer an amendment.

The CHAIRMAN. The Clerk will designate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

Amendment offered by Mr. MORAN of Kansas:

Page 27, line 6, after the dollar amount, insert "(increased by \$125,000,000)".

Page 28, line 22, after the dollar amount, insert "(reduced by \$125,000,000)".

The CHAIRMAN. Pursuant to the order of the House of today, the gentleman from Kansas (Mr. MORAN) and a Member opposed each will control 5 minutes.

Mr. EDWARDS. Mr. Chairman, I reserve a point of order on the gentleman's amendment.

The CHAIRMAN. The gentleman from Texas reserves a point of order.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Kansas.

Mr. MORAN of Kansas. Mr. Chairman, I commend the committee's work in regard to the funding levels that are here before us in this Veterans Administration and Military Quality of Life appropriation bill.

I am pleased to be here in support of this legislation, but I do have an amendment. My amendment would transfer \$125 million from veterans health administration accounts to the medical services account, and the purpose of doing so is to increase the amount of mileage reimbursement that disabled veterans receive for travel for medical services.

Currently, and, in fact, since 1978, our veterans have received 11 cents per mile. One would think that to be a misstatement on our part. I think it's very hard to believe that since 1978 we have not increased that reimbursement rate.

Because of funding constraints and priorities, I'm not asking that it be increased to what most of us would think is appropriate. Amendments have been offered in support on this House floor that have been demonstrated for the 48½ cents allowed by IRS regulations.

On the floor today is the gentleman from Georgia who offered an amendment that passed unanimously by voice vote earlier this session that would increase the rate, authorize the increased rate to 48½ cents. My amendment today appropriates the money, provides the money necessary to double the mileage reimbursement rate for disabled veterans from 11 cents per mile to 22 cents per mile.

A reasonable reimbursement rate is awfully important. This bill, in my opinion, goes a long way toward increasing the likelihood that veterans will have access to medical care and services that they so desperately need and so sincerely desire and deserve.

Those of us, however, who come from places in which it's a long distance to receive that service, to receive those benefits, are very concerned that there are people who are slipping through the cracks, as we have heard in other instances, within the VA system, because they cannot afford to make the trip to see the physician, to be seen at the hospital, to receive the services that they are entitled to.

I represent a district approximately the size of the State of Illinois. There is no VA hospital within the district. So my veterans must travel significant distances in order to receive care and treatment, and we know what has occurred in regard to the cost of travel with gas prices where they are today, as compared to where they were in 1978 when 11 cents per mile was established.

This concept is supported by our veterans service organization. I am a member of the House Veterans' Affairs Committee. I have chaired the health care subcommittee. This has been an issue we have dealt with for a long time, and I have seen amendments offered in previously years often stuck on a point of order or for me to withdraw them.

Today, I think it's important that we move forward, particularly at a time when we were increasing the amount of money available within the VA funding stream. If we don't do it now, when will

we do it? I offered this amendment, a similar amendment, in 2003, and most years since. It's always going to be next year.

With the levels of funding that are provided for in the underlying appropriation bill, it seems important for us, to me, for us not to sidestep this issue for another year.

Mr. Chairman, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. EDWARDS. Mr. Chairman, I withdraw my reservation, and I rise in opposition to the amendment.

The CHAIRMAN. The reservation is withdrawn.

The gentleman from Texas is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. EDWARDS. Mr. Chairman, in all due respect, I had not seen this amendment until 2 minutes ago.

I wish we had an opportunity to sit down, as our subcommittee has been doing for the last 6 months on a bipartisan basis, to see if the legitimate needs that the gentleman from Kansas has raised could have been dealt with through our subcommittee process.

The problem with what the gentleman has proposed in this amendment, while it might sound like we are cutting medical administration overhead at the central office in Washington, D.C., the gentleman may or may not know that the VA Medical Administration account funds employees with their feet on the ground, in the hospitals all across America, including in the gentleman's home State.

So, perhaps, unintentionally, I assume unintentionally, this amendment would cut funding needed to fund security at our VA hospitals, it would cut funds needed to provide patient medical information, transcription of patient records, financial management services at our VA hospitals and third-party collection activities.

□ 1415

So, unintentionally, by cutting this funding, it could make it more difficult to even bring third-party funding into the VA system and into the Treasury. So for those reasons, I must rise in opposition to this amendment.

I would be happy to sit down and work on a bipartisan basis to try to find a way to increase the miles reimbursement rate for veterans. I completely agree with the gentleman that the miles reimbursement rates are inadequate.

And I would like to think, given that we increased the medical services account for 2008 by \$3.4 billion over the 2007 level, and given that we increased it by \$1.7 billion over the President's request for medical services, my hope would be that the VA could seriously look at using those significant increases in funding to address the shortfall that the gentleman has mentioned.

I'm not sure what the authorizing process is. Since this amendment was one I'd never seen prior to, now 4 or 5 minutes ago, I'm not sure if there's a need to authorize funding for this if

that authorization has passed both the House and the Senate. I think it might have been in the Wounded Warrior legislation. But there might be an authorization question. Perhaps not.

But I would like to request the gentleman draw down the amendment. He doesn't have to, but I'd be happy to work in good faith, as we've been working all year long, to address legitimate needs. And the gentleman has pointed out a legitimate need.

But I want to be clear. I strongly oppose this amendment because it could hurt medical services provided to veterans by cutting out funding needed to staff our VA hospitals. The source of this money wouldn't be cutting out the Washington, D.C., office staff; it would be cutting out employees that are serving vital roles in our veterans hospitals in the gentleman's home State as well as mine.

Mr. MORAN of Kansas. Mr. Chairman, I appreciate the comments offered by the gentleman from Texas (Mr. EDWARDS). I will have to admit to him that my amendment is not unintentional, and so his assumption that the offset that I'm providing is an unintentional offering on my part is not true. I'm aware of where the money comes from and still believe that this is a high priority. And, in fact, this bill, the medical administration account, receives a 14½ percent, \$458 million, increase over last year's funding levels, and \$193 million more than the President requested in fiscal year 2008. And, in fact, our authorizing committee, both the minority and majority views, accepted those, the President's recommendation, as our suggested funding levels.

So again, in searching year after year for a place from which this money can come, it is not without concern that we have chosen these accounts. But this is the year in which there is a 14.5 percent increase in those funds. And even if my amendment would be adopted, it would still allow for a 10.6 percent increase in those administrative accounts.

Mr. Chairman, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. EDWARDS. Mr. Chairman, if I could use my remaining time, I'd like to just say to the gentleman, I appreciate his bringing this serious problem before the House. I wish, in hindsight, he'd brought it to us earlier than 5 or 10 minutes ago. I hope we could work together to try to find a way to address the needs he's mentioned.

But, my colleagues, let me reemphasize two points. He may know the source of the funding, but I'm not sure he intended to actually cut out funding, which this amendment would do, that is needed to hire VA employees to man our VA hospitals to see our veterans get the service that they desperately need and deserve.

In addition, we've had lengthy discussion, including from the Republican leadership, about the importance of oversight of this additional funding,

this historic level of funding we're putting into the VA this year. If we cut out the accounts that the gentleman's trying to cut out in this amendment, that undermines the entire effort that was discussed so eloquently by my Republican colleagues, that we've got to have enough money to have oversight to see that these new dollars are spent wisely and for the highest priority.

So, if the gentleman persists in offering the amendment and having a vote on it, I would ask my colleagues, on a bipartisan basis, in all due respect, to reject it and allow us to then work together in the months ahead to find an appropriate way to more adequately fund reimbursement rates for America's veterans.

I believe, personally and strongly, that this amendment would do harm to medical care to veterans, not intentionally, because the gentleman is a strong supporter of veterans. But nevertheless, it would do harm to service to veterans and undermine our ability to have strong oversight on the historic increases in VA funding that we provide in this bill.

Mr. MORAN of Kansas. Mr. Chairman, I yield back the balance of my time.

The CHAIRMAN. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Kansas (Mr. MORAN).

The question was taken; and the Chairman announced that the yeas appeared to have it.

Mr. MORAN of Kansas. Mr. Chairman, I demand a recorded vote.

The CHAIRMAN. Pursuant to clause 6 of rule XVIII, further proceedings on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Kansas will be postponed.

Mr. EDWARDS. Mr. Chairman, I move to strike the last word.

Mr. Chairman, I yield to the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. BARROW) for the purpose of a colloquy.

Mr. BARROW. Mr. Chairman, this is an important bill that addresses the needs of our veterans who've been neglected for too long now. Taking care of our veterans is important at any time, but it's particularly important in a time of war. So I want to thank you, Mr. Chairman, and your staff for your hard work on this bill.

I recently conducted a tour of veterans service organizations all across my district, and one of the things I heard over and over again was the growth in demand for veterans services in the future, and that's what I'd like to discuss with you, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. Chairman, community-based outpatient clinics play a vital role in meeting the health care needs of our veterans, especially in the rural parts of our country. My district, a 17-county area centered on Statesboro, Georgia, contains some 34,000 veterans. And I ask for your commitment, Mr. Chairman, to work in conference with the other body to look at this area and evaluate the need and determine the feasibility of a community-based outpatient clinic in Statesboro, Georgia.

Mr. EDWARDS. Reclaiming my time, Mr. Chairman, let me thank the gentleman for his focus on the importance of VA outpatient clinics.

In my 16 years in Congress, I think one of the most important improvements made in VA care to veterans, particularly in rural areas, is the creation and development and expansion of VA outpatient clinics, particularly for those veterans that live a long way from VA hospitals.

I'll be happy to work with the gentleman as we go to conference, and to work with the Veterans Administration as well, to put the facts together to see if we can provide funding for a Statesboro clinic. And I know the gentleman will be a strong advocate on its behalf.

For the record, I will say we have not, as a procedure in the past, earmarked specific funding for specific outpatient clinics. But the gentleman has spoken very strongly and eloquently about the need for his clinic, and we will work with him and the VA to see if we can provide the funding.

And I will say that the bill that the gentleman has strongly supported provides, as we previously said, an enormous increase in VA medical services funding, far above, \$1.7 billion above the President's request, \$6 billion in total VA medical care funding over fiscal year 2007. So I hope the VA will make a high priority out of expanding these clinics where they are needed.

AMENDMENT OFFERED BY MRS. CAPITO

Mrs. CAPITO. Mr. Chairman, I offer an amendment.

The CHAIRMAN. The Clerk will designate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

Amendment offered by Mrs. CAPITO:
Page 28, line 22, after the dollar amount, insert "(increased by \$5,000,000)(decreased by \$5,000,000)".

The CHAIRMAN. Pursuant to the order of the House of today, the gentleman from West Virginia (Mrs. CAPITO) and a Member opposed each will control 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from West Virginia.

Mrs. CAPITO. Mr. Chairman, I rise today to offer a bipartisan amendment highlighting the importance and need for an Office of Rural Health within the Department of Veterans Affairs.

I'd like to commend the chairman and the ranking member for their good, solid, hard work on this bill and the tribute it pays to America's veterans. I would also like to thank Mr. SALAZAR of Colorado and Mr. SMITH of Nebraska for their work on this bipartisan amendment.

I was pleased that language was included in the legislation that was signed into law by the President last year calling on the Department of Veterans Affairs to create an Office of Rural Health within the Office of the Under Secretary for Health. However, the Department has yet to make any progress towards establishing this very important office.

This is a simple amendment that should encourage the Department to make the Office of Rural Health fully operational as expeditiously as possible, and provide them with the resources needed to do so by rerouting \$5 million in the Medical Services Account to help fund the Office of Rural Health, thus making it revenue neutral.

Rural Americans face different and unique challenges than our fellow citizens who reside in urban and suburban areas, and this is no different for our veterans and their ability to seek the services and the treatments that they need. For some rural veterans, a simple trip to the doctor can often involve hours of travel to reach the appropriate facility within the veterans health facilities health system.

It is my hope that the Office of Rural Health will shed light on many of these challenges, and will be a resource with many new and creative ideas for methods to help our rural veterans receive their much-deserved benefits in a manner that is efficient, and allowing them to stay as close to home as possible.

One of the great challenges we are beginning to face is the number of servicemen and -women returning from Iraq and Afghanistan who have sustained a traumatic brain injury. The Department of Veterans Affairs has four large polytrauma centers, in Richmond, Tampa, Minneapolis and Palo Alto, California. These facilities provide first-class treatment for veterans suffering polytrauma, and also provide inpatient rehabilitation services.

Despite the services provided at these facilities, many veterans will eventually return to their homes in the rural areas of America, but they will still need care and treatment. The Office of Rural Health will be the basis for new ways to provide rural veterans with polytrauma with the care that they need.

Another development within the Department of Veterans Affairs that has been going on for a while are the Community-Based Outpatient Clinics, or CBOCs. Often serving rural areas, CBOCs are a tremendous asset to the delivery of care for veterans, allowing them to seek treatment closer to their home. Unfortunately, underserved areas still remain in the rural areas. Again, the Office of Rural Health will be an excellent resource for new ways to provide primary outpatient care.

Mr. Chairman, I urge passage of this commonsense amendment so that the rural veterans concerns can be appropriately addressed.

Mr. Chairman, I reserve the balance of my time.

The CHAIRMAN. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Texas for 5 minutes.

Mr. EDWARDS. Mr. Chairman, I want to thank the gentlelady for bringing to the attention of the House, once again, the importance of providing quality veterans care to the men and

women who served our Nation and happen to live in small, rural communities, areas perhaps in many cases far away from veterans hospitals. I think the community clinics have been one great, great addition to the VA health care system over the last 2 decades.

And let me point out, for the RECORD, before I will express that I will support this amendment, that Mr. UDALL of New Mexico and Mr. LATHAM, in our full Appropriations Committee, added language on this issue which I know the gentlelady and I will both support; and it says this: "The committee notes that the Public Law 109-461 directed the establishment of an Office of Rural Health within the Office of Under Secretary for Health. To date, after more than 6 months, there has been no action taken to implement the provision regarding the Office of Rural Health. The Committee urges the Department to move forward in an expeditious manner."

□ 1430

With that, I would like to express my support for the amendment.

Mrs. CAPITO. Mr. Chairman, I would like to yield 1½ minutes to my colleague from Colorado (Mr. SALAZAR).

Mr. SALAZAR. Mr. Chairman, I thank the gentlewoman for yielding. And I would also like to thank the chairman of the committee for expressing his support for this amendment.

At the end of the 109th Congress, the Veterans Benefits, Health Care, and Information Technology Act of 2006 was signed into law. This legislation created the Office of Rural Health within the VA and tasked the office with conducting research into issues affecting rural veterans, as well as developing and refining policies and programs to improve care and services for rural veterans.

Unfortunately, as the chairman has clearly stated, since this legislation has been signed into law establishing the Office of Rural Health, no action has been taken. Just yesterday in the Veterans' Affairs Health Subcommittee, I asked the VA Under Secretary to give me an update, and he confirmed that as of this date a director has not even been hired yet.

This amendment would simply allocate \$5 million from the same account within Medical Services to establish this office.

The care our Nation provides rural veterans in return for protecting our country should not suffer because some have chosen to live in rural America. We owe them no less for their sacrifice.

For the 25 percent of all veterans who live in rural areas, and the nearly 45 percent of all recruits coming from rural America, I urge you to strongly support this amendment, and I commend the chairman for supporting this amendment.

Mrs. CAPITO. Mr. Chairman, I, too, would like to thank the Chair for his support of this amendment.

Mr. Chairman, I yield the balance of my time to the gentleman from Ne-

braska (Mr. SMITH), one of the cosponsors of this amendment.

Mr. SMITH of Nebraska. Mr. Chairman, I thank Congresswoman CAPITO.

I appreciate your support for this amendment, the Capito-Smith-Salazar amendment. And I don't want to be repetitive because many good points were offered by the chairman of the committee as well as others. So I just want to add my support and certainly state that it is unfortunate that nearly 6 months since the legislation was signed into law for the Office of Rural Health, little action has been taken. So I believe this is a good step forward for those in rural America because they should not have to suffer simply because they live in rural America.

The CHAIRMAN. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentlewoman from West Virginia (Mrs. CAPITO).

The amendment was agreed to.

AMENDMENT OFFERED BY MS. CORRINE BROWN OF FLORIDA

Ms. CORRINE BROWN of Florida. Mr. Chairman, I offer an amendment.

The CHAIRMAN. The Clerk will designate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

Amendment offered by Ms. CORRINE BROWN of Florida:

Page 30, line 14, after the dollar amount, insert "(reduced by \$40,000,000)".

Page 33, line 14, after the dollar amount, insert "(increased by \$40,000,000)".

The CHAIRMAN. Pursuant to the order of the House of today, the gentlewoman from Florida (Ms. CORRINE BROWN) and a Member opposed each will control 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Florida.

Ms. CORRINE BROWN of Florida. Mr. Chairman, first of all, I want to thank Speaker PELOSI, Chairman OBEY, and Chairman EDWARDS for bringing this bill to the floor. The motto of the former Veterans Secretary, my friend Jessie Brown, was "putting veterans first."

Well, the leadership they have shown, bringing the largest increase in the history of veterans funding to the floor, over \$7 billion, I have got to thank you, sir. I have served on this committee for 15 years, and for 15 years we have struggled to put the veterans first. And I am so pleased that the House of Representatives under your leadership has finally put the veterans first.

Mr. Chairman, I rise on my amendment to bring attention to a travesty occurring in my district. A travesty not just affecting my district, but this regional hospital affects Florida and Georgia.

The Gainesville VA Medical Center is 40 years old and looks every day of it. There are five beds to a room, no shower, and no place for families.

This facility received one of the highest rates of returning Afghanistan and Iraq veterans and is being shortchanged by a lack of proper facilities. The bed tower project includes 228 sin-

gle-patient bedrooms for surgical, medical, and psychiatric patients. This includes extra space for support of the psychiatric care inpatient program. Finally, the building itself was required to be structurally strengthened to protect it from potential terrorist attack since we are part of the national emergency response system. The current design will be completed in June 2007 and will be ready to be released for bid in September 2007.

Since the approval by the National CARES Commission and initial funding allocation, much has changed in the construction world. The dual impacts of Hurricane Katrina and the construction boom in China have caused the costs of all construction in the U.S. to rise.

The total estimated construction cost is over \$103 million. The original projection was \$64 million for construction. That leaves a shortfall of about \$40 million.

Every month of delay costs about \$1.1 million. An additional \$40 million is needed in order to complete the project.

The men and women returning to Florida and southern Georgia will be greatly impacted, and I would like to work with the committee to resolve this matter.

Mr. Chairman, do I have the word of the chairman to look into this matter?

Mr. EDWARDS. Mr. Chairman, will the gentlewoman yield?

Ms. CORRINE BROWN of Florida. I yield to Chairman EDWARDS.

Mr. EDWARDS. Mr. Chairman, let me first thank the gentlewoman for her kind words about our work on this bill and, more importantly, for her 15 years of leadership on the Veterans' Affairs Committee on behalf of our veterans not only in Florida but on behalf of veterans all across the country.

Because of the concerns raised by the gentlewoman, we increased the major construction project account in this bill by \$683 million above the President's request because the reality is it is not just the VA system. It is the DOD health care system. It is construction all across America that is facing huge increases in costs, and obviously the Gainesville Florida hospital is a terribly important health care facility in our national VA health care system. And I look forward to working with the gentlewoman to see that we have enough funding to see that that additional funding is possible. And we will work with the VA as we go to conference and beyond on that issue.

Ms. CORRINE BROWN of Florida. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. And once again thank you for your leadership.

Mr. Chairman, I ask unanimous consent to withdraw my amendment.

The CHAIRMAN. Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from Florida?

There was no objection.

AMENDMENT NO. 1 OFFERED BY MR. GARRETT OF NEW JERSEY

Mr. GARRETT of New Jersey. Mr. Chairman, I offer an amendment.

The CHAIRMAN. The Clerk will designate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

Amendment No. 1 offered by Mr. GARRETT of New Jersey:

Page 30, line 14, after the dollar amount, insert “(reduced by \$10,000,000)”.

Page 36, line 11, after the dollar amount, insert “(increased by \$10,000,000)”.

The CHAIRMAN. Pursuant to the order of the House of today, the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. GARRETT) and the gentleman from Texas (Mr. EDWARDS) each will control 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New Jersey.

Mr. GARRETT of New Jersey. Mr. Chairman, first of all, I wish to rise to say that I appreciate the work of both the Chair and ranking member with regard to their work on behalf of veterans of this country.

The amendment that is before us is an amendment to seek increase in funds for the State veterans homes. It does so in the amount of \$10 million. There are 126 facilities, veterans homes, across the 50 States and Puerto Rico. These are State veterans homes and they care for nearly 30,000 of our Nation's heroes. The number of veterans that are going to be requiring care is large and is going to continue to grow through the year 2020. And the conflict today is leading to more veterans that will need special care throughout the rest of their lives.

As many of our veterans move into these extended care facilities, we must continue here in this House to ensure that the facilities are both safe and comfortable for the residents. As you may know, there is an extensive list of backlogged projects just waiting for the funds, many of them in the area of critical health and safety needs. Of the \$500 million of projects waiting for Federal funds, nearly half are classified as priority one.

We must also see that these facilities are able to provide for high quality of life as well for those individuals who have made great sacrifices in the past years for our Nation. These are homes, as I said before, for our heroes. They are not simply institutions that we are funding. If we are not able to fund the priority one projects that I am worried about, these homes will be inadequate and we will not be honoring our veterans.

The staff at these homes work hard to honor our veterans and work with them to provide that they have, for the remaining years of their lives, a comfortable environment. I have had the opportunity to spend some time in these veterans home, particularly the Paramus Veterans Home in my district in Bergen County, and I particularly had the chance to visit with the people who live there and the staff and their friends and relatives who come along. In addition to that, there are local veterans service organizations that have worked hard to secure State matching funds for these essential projects as

well at this facility, just as their counterparts are doing the same sort of thing all across this country in their homes as well.

Finally, I would like to point this out, that our colleagues in the Senate Appropriations Committee just this week approved \$250 million for this account. So including my amendment here would still mean that we are falling short of where the Senate is by around \$75 million; so I therefore believe that this \$10 million is well called for.

While this backlog is much greater than what this amendment can provide, I wanted to call attention to this difficulty these homes currently are facing and have been facing for some period of time, and I hope that we can work together now to find a way to honor these vets and make sure that they receive the best care and the best quality of life in their remaining days.

Mr. Chairman, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. EDWARDS. Mr. Chairman, I do want to thank the gentleman from New Jersey for his support for state-extended care facilities, and I agree with him that the President's budget for this account was, in my words, woefully underfunded, and it is because of the importance of these extended care facilities that in our subcommittee we provided a 95-percent increase over the President's request for that. The President has requested \$85 million; we fund it at \$165 million.

The reason I oppose this amendment and would ask my colleagues to do the same is that the gentleman, in order to provide additional funding, cuts \$10 million out of the funding account that is necessary to meet one of the veterans service organizations' highest priorities this year, and that is reduce the terrible backlog of 400,000 veterans waiting to get their claims reviewed by VA caseworkers. And with the funding we provided in that account in this bill, if we don't reduce it in this or other amendments, we are going to be able to hire 1,100 new VA caseworkers in order to reduce that backlog. Right now that backlog is averaging 177 days, and many veterans are having to wait longer than that, including combat veterans, to get their earned benefits approved and started.

The gentleman in no way would want to or intend to cut the funding to try to help our veterans get their benefits more quickly. But the reality is that taking \$10 million out of that very account, the very account that the VAV, the VFW, the American Legion, and others emphasized to us all year long, we have to reduce the terrible backlog in veterans benefits claims processing. All the groups supported that additional funding. And that is why I would ask, with all due respect, that our colleagues on a bipartisan basis respect that 95 percent increase we provided in this bill for state-extended care facilities and let's not cut one of the top two priorities of veterans service organiza-

tions this year all across the Nation, and that is, reduce the 400,000 claims backlog of veterans benefits.

Mr. GARRETT of New Jersey. Mr. Chairman, will the gentleman yield?

Mr. EDWARDS. I will be glad to yield to the gentleman.

Mr. GARRETT of New Jersey. As you know, this is not an issue that is new. I actually brought this up and talked about this back early in the year in the Budget Committee, and we had a discussion on it at that time.

Just a question to you: That account you are referencing where we are drawing the money from has grown as well, has it not?

Two questions. And the second question is there are other aspects of that account other than just that provision that you are referencing; so does it necessarily mean, in your opinion, that if we do withdraw some funds from the fairly large account that it will have a detrimental effect on the area that you are specifying, one which I agree with?

Mr. EDWARDS. Mr. Chairman, reclaiming my time, we can't say on the floor at this moment exactly what the VA would do, but what I could say for a fact is this \$10 million comes out of the account. It is used and intended to fund an additional 1,100 VA claims caseworkers, and I am afraid if you start cutting that account, the VA will obviously have to cut funding out of our intended plans to increase those numbers.

We still have a long way to go in this process. Who knows, as we look carefully at various projects in military construction and the VA side, where we might find additional money. And I think the committee has shown its good intention by increasing President Bush's request for this program by 95 percent. We understand it is an important need, and the gentleman has spoken out on it earlier this year and in the past.

I would just say to our colleagues, not this year, not now, not today. Let's not cut \$10 million out of an account that the veterans service groups say we desperately need funded in order to reduce the backlog for 400,000 veterans to get their benefits started. Many of these veterans need their benefits started as soon as possible. Many of them are living day to day, week to week; and the earlier we can get them their benefits, the quicker they go on with rebuilding their lives. And for that reason, I must oppose the gentleman's amendment.

Mr. Chairman, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. GARRETT of New Jersey. Mr. Chairman, I appreciate the gentleman's comments. And we are on the same page as far as both aspects that we wish the Department to deal with.

On this amendment, I think your comment was “just not this year.” And obviously as a Member who has been here 4 years now fighting, as you have also, probably before me, but myself here on this floor fighting for these

veterans homes, fighting literally for the ones back in my districts as well for the veterans there and seeing just the smallest improvements in just a certain number of the safety areas. And there are other area safety areas that would seem to me to need improvements in and health areas as well, and we just can't get the funds.

□ 1445

And the quality of life even goes beyond those issues as far as what these gentlemen need in these homes.

So I bring this amendment to the floor today for that reason, firstly. And secondly, also from a pragmatic point of view that this will go to the Senate and, as I did make the reference, that the Senate has already marked it up even significantly higher than what the gentleman has already done.

Mr. Chairman, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. EDWARDS. Mr. Chairman, I yield back the balance of my time.

The CHAIRMAN. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. GARRETT).

The question was taken; and the Chairman announced that the yeas appeared to have it.

Mr. GARRETT of New Jersey. Mr. Chairman, I demand a recorded vote.

The CHAIRMAN. Pursuant to clause 6 of rule XVIII, further proceedings on the amendment offered by the gentleman from New Jersey will be postponed.

Mr. EDWARDS. Mr. Chairman, I move to strike the last word.

The CHAIRMAN. The gentleman from Texas is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. EDWARDS. Mr. Chairman, I would like to yield time to the gentleman from Rhode Island, a valued and important member of our subcommittee who, I must say, giving credit where credit is due, has been an eloquent and powerful speaker on behalf of the need to increase funding for mental health care services for our vets, drug and alcohol treatment programs for our vets, as well as increasing funding for homeless veterans. The product of his hard work and dedication is very obvious in this bill.

With that, Mr. Chairman, I yield to the gentleman from Rhode Island (Mr. KENNEDY).

Mr. KENNEDY. Mr. Chairman, I don't want anyone to mistake, after hearing the previous debate or any one of these amendments, what the big picture is here today. The success story today, the take-away message today is that this bill is the biggest increase in veterans health care in the history of the veterans health care system, the biggest increase in the 77-year history of the veterans health care system; and it has happened under the chairmanship of CHET EDWARDS.

Every amendment here is talking about nickels and dimes compared to the overwhelming increase in billions of dollars, billions of dollars that are

going into this veterans health care system that has never seen such an infusion of dollars. We're not talking about a little bit of money here, a little bit of money there, and that's often what ends up happening. We're talking about money for this program or that program. We are talking about billions of dollars that have never been even seen in this kind of fashion in any kind of veterans health care program before.

And so what we are doing here is raising the bar for generations to come because what we're doing now is layering the bar up. So from now on, the floor is 20 stories higher than it was the day before. And from now on, whenever another veterans budget comes up, it is going to start from the top floor and move even higher.

I want everyone to know that this is a monumental day. This budget exceeds even the proposed budget of all the veteran service organizations, even the VFW, the American Legion, the Paralyzed Veterans of America; this is even more than they have asked for.

And I want to say on behalf of the mental health needs of our veterans, we are doing all that we need to do and more to try to make sure that their needs are met. And we should do so, because the suffering that these veterans have had to undergo as a result of this war has been unbearable. And we, as a Nation, owe it to make sure that not only do their outward physical wounds get met and treated, but their inward psychological wounds get tended to as well. And this bill does that.

I want to thank the chairman for his work to make sure that not only their outward wounds, but their inward wounds get addressed as well. And I commend him for his leadership. He ought to feel very proud to be chairman on such an historic bill such as this, and I thank him for his leadership.

Mr. EDWARDS. I want to thank the gentleman not only for his kind words and for his eloquent and powerful words on behalf of our veterans, but even more importantly, for his deeds, not just this year, but for every year you've been in Congress. Millions of veterans are living a better life today because of that leadership. I thank you for that.

Mr. Chairman, with that, I yield back the balance of my time.

AMENDMENT OFFERED BY MRS. WILSON OF NEW MEXICO

Mrs. WILSON of New Mexico. Mr. Chairman, I offer an amendment.

The CHAIRMAN. The Clerk will designate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

Amendment offered by Mrs. WILSON of New Mexico:

Page 31, line 6, after "Philippines", insert "Provided further, That of the funds made available under this heading, \$2,000,000 is for the Advisory Committee on Women Veterans under section 542 of title 38, United States Code".

The CHAIRMAN. Pursuant to the order of the House of today, the gentle-

woman from New Mexico (Mrs. WILSON) and a Member opposed each will control 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from New Mexico.

Mrs. WILSON of New Mexico. Mr. Chairman, I rise today to offer an amendment to the Military Construction and Veterans Affairs Appropriations bill this year.

My amendment would designate and devote \$2 million from the Department of Administration general operations expenses account. This is a very large account. The President requested \$1.4 billion for that account. This body is appropriating \$1.6 billion for that account, and what it does is fence that money and say that \$2 million of this must be devoted and appropriated to the Advisory Committee on Women Veterans.

The intent of this amendment is that the Advisory Committee on Women Veterans would undertake a special effort, through a task force or special commission, to study and make recommendations on the health care needs of women veterans. All of us are concerned about whether the veterans health care system is meeting the needs of this newest generation of veterans. But there is a special category of veterans that I think sometimes gets overlooked.

In 1978, I got a one-way ticket to Colorado Springs, Colorado, in the third class with women at the United States Air Force Academy. And I walked up a ramp, and over that ramp was a big sign in aluminum letters that said, "Bring Me Men." That sign stayed there for 20 years after women were admitted to the Air Force Academy. It's gone now, but some of us as women veterans feel that maybe the VA hospitals have a similar sign over their doors, if not literally, then certainly figuratively.

I am the only woman veteran serving in the Congress. And women veterans face different obstacles than men and have different health care needs than men when they start to get care from the VA. To start with, many women don't even consider themselves or call themselves veterans, and they don't think of the VA as their system.

A larger number of women are serving in the military, and in the future we are going to see higher numbers of women veterans, and they will face different problems and challenges as they age. One in seven veterans of the current war on terrorism, one in seven Americans who are deployed in Iraq and Afghanistan is a woman, and yet the VA health care system is very oriented towards the health care needs of men.

Just let me give you one example. If you are a veteran and you go to the VA for a clinic on PTSD, if everyone else in that group is a guy, are you really getting the care that is appropriate to you? A lot of women veterans don't feel comfortable in those settings. They are not sure that the OB/GYN care is what

they need. If they face osteoporosis, they're not sure that the VA is where they should be. Or if they face problems with cancers particular to women, is the VA going to meet their needs?

My goal in proposing this amendment is to get the VA to bring together a group of people who can truly devote the time and effort needed to study the needs of women veterans and examine the care that is available to our women veterans and the challenges that we face so that they can report their findings to Congress and to the VA so that we as a body can evaluate and adjust the system so that all of our veterans get the care that they have earned.

I am very grateful, and I think all Americans are, to those who serve our Nation, and we have a responsibility to make sure that they receive the best possible care. The burdens of this war on terrorism has fallen on the shoulders of a relatively small number of Americans who have volunteered to take great risks on our behalf. We owe them, our veterans past, present and future, a debt of gratitude for their selflessness and for their service. We need to make sure that our veterans get the benefits they were promised, the health care they deserve, and the recognition that our Nation owes them.

Mr. Chairman, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. EDWARDS. Mr. Chairman, I move to strike the last word.

I want to thank the gentlelady for her strong voice on behalf of women veterans. I had the honor of working in the Texas State Senate under then Lieutenant Governor Bill Hobby, whose mother, Oveta Culp Hobby, played a leading role in heading the WACs in World War II.

When I was first elected to the House in 1990, the famous, some would say infamous, but the wonderful and always famous Sarah McClendon, the White House reporter, who I think at one point was second in line in seniority at the White House and was an outspoken advocate on behalf of women veterans. And I thank the gentlelady for continuing in the tradition of Ms. Hobby and Ms. McClendon.

There is no doubt that the VA has come a long way in its history in trying to improve care to women veterans, but we have yet a long way to go. And for that reason, I will support this amendment.

Mr. Chairman, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mrs. WILSON of New Mexico. I thank my colleague for his support of this effort. I look forward to working with him to make sure that the VA undertakes this effort and takes it seriously, and we get some good, solid recommendations that all of us can work on.

Mr. Chairman, I yield the balance of my time.

The CHAIRMAN. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentlewoman from New Mexico (Mrs. WILSON).

The amendment was agreed to.

Mr. EDWARDS. Mr. Chairman, I move to strike the last word and would be glad to yield to the gentleman from North Carolina.

Mr. MCHENRY. I want to thank my colleague from Texas for putting together a great bill. I know he has been a long-time advocate of the best care possible for our veterans in this country. And as a military general, I want to commend him for the great work he has done on a bipartisan basis. And I thank you for that, Chairman.

Mr. Chairman, I rise today to bring attention to the shortcomings of the Department of Veterans Affairs in addressing the infrastructure needs of community-based outpatient clinics. These clinics provide convenient care to our veterans on an outpatient basis.

There are currently 64 pending clinics that have received approval from the VA either in fiscal year 2007 or fiscal year 2008. One of those clinics is set to be established in my district in Hickory, North Carolina. When opened, this clinic will serve approximately 10,000 veterans on an outpatient basis annually. However, since the VA Mid-Atlantic Health Care Network announced last June that the clinic in Hickory would open in January of this year, there has been nothing but delay after delay after delay. Now, veterans in western North Carolina are frustrated with these delays, as many of us are, and there seems to be this common issue throughout the system.

This particular clinic has been in the works in some way or another for roughly 12 years, Mr. Chairman. The time is up for delays, and veterans of these 64 regions are entitled to answers.

Last month, my two North Carolina colleagues in the Senate and I formally requested an update about the status of the outpatient clinic in Hickory. Unfortunately, we have yet to receive a response to our inquiry. Our veterans, I believe, deserve better.

I would ask that as this bill moves forward to the Senate and to conference, the chairman and the ranking member work to get answers from the Department of Veterans Affairs, answers to why we have these continued delays for pending outpatient clinics. Veterans in Hickory, North Carolina, and across the country have sacrificed too much for our country and deserve to have, at the very least, convenient health care. They deserve a proper explanation and progress report as well.

I also want to finish by commending the chairman for his, again, hard work on increasing funding for our veterans. I know that on both sides of the aisle we are very pleased with the work you've done, both the chairman and the ranking member, and we are looking forward to passage.

□ 1500

Mr. EDWARDS. Mr. Chairman, reclaiming my time, let me thank the gentleman for his kind comments and

say that while I don't know specifically where the Hickory Outpatient Clinic stands in the list of priorities for the VA, for the very reasons the gentleman mentioned about the importance of these clinics we have report language in this bill to require the VA to report back to us the status of these clinics.

I think it is pretty clear the reason the VA hasn't funded many of these clinics, and there are 717 that have been funded, is simply that they didn't have enough money to fund the clinics. That is one reason we worked so hard this year in this Congress to provide an increase in VA care funding that is unprecedented in our Nation's history. If you count the 2007 continuing resolution plus the Iraq war supplemental plus this bill, if it passes today and becomes law, we will have provided in this Congress this year in the last 6 months an \$11.9 billion increase in VA discretionary spending, 90 percent of which goes to VA medical care.

I hope that with passage of this bill, and now the administration has agreed not to veto it, we will perhaps have enough money to fund some of the clinics that have not been funded.

We will look forward to working with the gentleman. He deserves an answer from the VA. I don't know why the gentleman hasn't gotten an answer back from the VA. I encourage you to keep calling them or talking to them until they do answer you.

Again, I can't answer specifically on where Hickory does stand or should stand in the process. That should be a process based on the reality of the veterans' needs, comparing one community to another. But I sure look forward to working with our colleagues to see that we have enough funding in this bill to increase the number of VA clinics that we can build around the country.

Mr. Chairman, I yield back the balance of my time.

The CHAIRMAN. The Clerk will read.

The Clerk read as follows:

TITLE III

RELATED AGENCIES

AMERICAN BATTLE MONUMENTS COMMISSION

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For necessary expenses, not otherwise provided for, of the American Battle Monuments Commission, including the acquisition of land or interest in land in foreign countries; purchases and repair of uniforms for caretakers of national cemeteries and monuments outside of the United States and its territories and possessions; rent of office and garage space in foreign countries; purchase (one-for-one replacement basis only) and hire of passenger motor vehicles; not to exceed \$7,500 for official reception and representation expenses; and insurance of official motor vehicles in foreign countries, when required by law of such countries, \$43,470,000, to remain available until expended.

FOREIGN CURRENCY FLUCTUATIONS ACCOUNT

For necessary expenses, not otherwise provided for, of the American Battle Monuments Commission, \$11,000,000, to remain available until expended, for purposes authorized by section 2109 of title 36, United States Code.

UNITED STATES COURT OF APPEALS FOR
VETERANS CLAIMS
SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For necessary expenses for the operation of the United States Court of Appeals for Veterans Claims as authorized by sections 7251 through 7298 of title 38, United States Code, \$21,397,000, of which \$1,300,000 shall be available for the purpose of providing financial assistance as described, and in accordance with the process and reporting procedures set forth, under this heading in Public Law 102-229.

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE—CIVIL
CEMETERIAL EXPENSES, ARMY
SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For necessary expenses, as authorized by law, for maintenance, operation, and improvement of Arlington National Cemetery and Soldiers' and Airmen's Home National Cemetery, including the purchase of two passenger motor vehicles for replacement only, and not to exceed \$1,000 for official reception and representation expenses, \$30,592,000, to remain available until expended. In addition, such sums as may be necessary for parking maintenance, repairs and replacement, to be derived from the Lease of Department of Defense Real Property for Defense Agencies account.

ARMED FORCES RETIREMENT HOME
TRUST FUND

For expenses necessary for the Armed Forces Retirement Home to operate and maintain the Armed Forces Retirement Home—Washington, District of Columbia and the Armed Forces Retirement Home—Gulport, Mississippi, to be paid from funds available in the Armed Forces Retirement Home Trust Fund, \$55,724,000.

ARMED FORCES RETIREMENT HOME
FEDERAL FUND PAYMENT

For payment to the "Armed Forces Retirement Home", \$800,000, to remain available until expended.

TITLE IV
GENERAL PROVISIONS

SEC. 401. No part of any appropriation contained in this Act shall remain available for obligation beyond the current fiscal year unless expressly so provided herein.

SEC. 402. Such sums as may be necessary for fiscal year 2008 pay raises for programs funded by this Act shall be absorbed within the levels appropriated in this Act.

SEC. 403. None of the funds made available in this Act may be used for any program, project, or activity, when it is made known to the Federal entity or official to which the funds are made available that the program, project, or activity is not in compliance with any Federal law relating to risk assessment, the protection of private property rights, or unfunded mandates.

SEC. 404. No part of any funds appropriated in this Act shall be used by an agency of the executive branch, other than for normal and recognized executive-legislative relationships, for publicity or propaganda purposes, and for the preparation, distribution or use of any kit, pamphlet, booklet, publication, radio, television, or film presentation designed to support or defeat legislation pending before Congress, except in presentation to Congress itself.

SEC. 405. All departments and agencies funded under this Act are encouraged, within the limits of the existing statutory authorities and funding, to expand their use of "E-Commerce" technologies and procedures in the conduct of their business practices and public service activities.

AMENDMENT NO. 13 OFFERED BY MRS.
BLACKBURN

Mrs. BLACKBURN. Mr. Chairman, I offer an amendment.

The CHAIRMAN. The Clerk will designate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

Amendment No. 13 offered by Mrs. BLACKBURN:

In section 405 (page 48, beginning on line 11), strike "encouraged" and insert "directed".

The CHAIRMAN. Pursuant to the order of the House today, the gentlewoman from Tennessee (Mrs. BLACKBURN) and a Member opposed each will control 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Tennessee.

Mrs. BLACKBURN. Mr. Chairman, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Chairman, American businesses in the private sector continue to advance the use of information and e-commerce technology to strengthen their bottom line and increase customer service. However, too many government agencies continue to use antiquated operating systems that do not use taxpayer dollars efficiently or create optimal conditions for customer service.

Right here in the House of Representatives, we offer Americans e-commerce services in the form of "Write Your Rep." I am sure most of my colleagues and their staff use this program, and they use it with efficiency. It helps us to stay in touch.

I have a military post in my district, Fort Campbell. It is located in Montgomery County, Tennessee. I also have 60,000 veterans that are there. One of the things we find is that many times our agencies, working with these constituents, continue to do business on antiquated systems that don't optimize efficiently.

That is why I am offering this amendment today. Increasing the use of e-commerce technology and procedures in the bureaucracy will allow critical agencies funded under this act to operate more efficiently. But, more importantly, it will allow our members of the military and our veterans to gain access to records, especially health records, that they need in a timely manner.

I want to thank the chairman for recognizing this important business objective. The underlying legislation takes a step forward to the goal by encouraging the agencies to expand the use of e-commerce.

My amendment, however, is an important step further. It would direct the agencies funded under H.R. 2642 to expand the use of e-commerce technologies in the conducting of their business practices within the limits, within the limits, of the existing statute and funding.

It is a straightforward, simple amendment. As we know, the bureaucracy is not going to do this on their own. They need the oversight from Congress.

If successful, we have got three points we hope it would achieve: num-

ber one, lead to greater transparency in agency asset and records management; number two, enhance governmental reform and efficiency; and, number three, spur agencies to build best practices and conduct themselves in a more businesslike manner.

Mr. EDWARDS. Mr. Chairman, if the gentlewoman will yield, I think this is a good amendment, and I will support it. I think there will be broad bipartisan support for your amendment, because it is well thought out and it is a positive thing to do. We will support it.

Mrs. BLACKBURN. Mr. Chairman, reclaiming my time, I thank the chairman for thinking about the records process with our veterans and our military.

Mr. Chairman, I yield back the balance of my time.

The CHAIRMAN. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentlewoman from Tennessee (Mrs. BLACKBURN).

The amendment was agreed to.

The CHAIRMAN. The Clerk will read. The Clerk read as follows:

SEC. 406. None of the funds made available in this Act may be transferred to any department, agency, or instrumentality of the United States Government except pursuant to a transfer made by, or transfer authority provided in, this or any other appropriations Act.

SEC. 407. Unless stated otherwise, all reports and notifications required by this Act shall be submitted to the Subcommittee on Military Construction, Veterans Affairs, and Related Agencies of the Committee on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Subcommittee on Military Construction, Veterans Affairs, and Related Agencies of the Committee on Appropriations of the Senate.

SEC. 408. The Director of the Congressional Budget Office shall, not later than February 1, 2008, submit to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate a report projecting annual appropriations necessary for the Department of Veterans Affairs to continue providing necessary health care to veterans for fiscal years 2009 through 2012.

AMENDMENT OFFERED BY MRS. MUSGRAVE

Mrs. MUSGRAVE. Mr. Chairman, I offer an amendment.

The CHAIRMAN. The Clerk will designate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

Amendment offered by Mrs. MUSGRAVE:

At the end of the bill (before the short title), add the following new section:

SEC. _____. None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available in this Act may be used for any action that is related to or promotes the expansion of the boundaries or size of the Pinon Canyon Maneuver Site in southeastern Colorado.

The CHAIRMAN. Pursuant to the order of the House of today, the gentlewoman from Colorado (Mrs. MUSGRAVE) and the gentleman from Texas (Mr. EDWARDS) each will control 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Colorado.

Mrs. MUSGRAVE. Mr. Chairman, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Chairman, I would like to commend the chairman for his work on

this bill, and I would like to commend the ranking member for the yeoman's job that you have done, for the work you have had before you. I very much appreciate it.

In Colorado, we have a very unique situation. We have a maneuver site that the United States Army uses, and it is 236,000 acres presently. The Army is wanting to expand this by 418,000 additional acres.

If you drive in that area of our State, you will see this sign. This was created by a high school teacher from La Junta: "Our land is our life. It is not for sale."

As a very strong supporter of the United States military, but also a very strong supporter of our private property rights, I am opposed to this expansion, and my amendment would say that no funds in this bill would be used for the expansion.

A month ago in Colorado, our Democratic Governor, Bill Ritter, signed into law a bill to withdraw the State's consent to give up any land that the United States Army might acquire through condemnation. So there is a very strong message that comes from our State legislature, from our house and senate and from our Governor. But the most poignant opposition that I hear about is from the farmers and ranchers, many of them who have been there for five generations who will lose their land, who will lose their way of life.

When you look at the opposition to the Pinon Canyon expansion, it goes on and on. But, interestingly enough, it is very diverse. The opposition comes from the National Cattlemen's Beef Association. It comes from property rights groups. But it also comes from groups such as the Sierra Club, Colorado Springs Chapter. This is all over the political spectrum that this expansion is opposed.

As we think about what could happen in that area, it is interesting to look at the National Trust for Historic Preservation issues and their 2000 list of America's most endangered places: "Pinon Canyon, Colorado. In Southeastern Colorado, under uninterrupted blue skies, Pinon Canyon is an area of scenic buttes, river valleys, family ranches and historic and archeological sites that span 11,500 years. The area is threatened by the United States Army's plan to expand its maneuver training ground by as much as 418,000 acres, a move that could lead to forced condemnation of private lands and damage or destroy historic Santa Fe Trail monuments, ranches and historic and prehistoric archeological sites."

That is what is at stake in southeastern Colorado. As we look at how much land the government already owns, in the red area you can see how much of our State is already government land in Colorado. The expansion of the Pinon Canyon maneuver site would be as large as the State of Rhode Island. It is striking.

Mr. Chairman, I yield the balance of my time to the gentleman from Colorado (Mr. SALAZAR).

Mr. SALAZAR. Mr. Chairman, I thank the gentlelady from Colorado.

Mr. Chairman, today I rise as a proud veteran, as a son of a veteran and the father of a veteran. I am honored to be the only veteran of the Colorado delegation.

As an Army man, today I am saddened to rise in opposition to the Army's plan to condemn nearly half a million acres of privately owned ranches and farms in my district.

Pinon Canyon currently has a 235,000-acre training facility which Fort Carson utilizes in southeastern Colorado. Now the Army is seeking to expand the Pinon Canyon site by an additional 418,000 acres, utilizing condemnation as a power to do so. The Army's plans include taking this land by condemnation. If the Army succeeds, Fort Carson and Pinon Canyon combined will be larger than the State of Rhode Island.

Opposition to the expansion is unified, as the gentlewoman from Colorado stated. But when the Army acquired the original Pinon Canyon land in 1982, they promised local landowners that it would never be expanded. Now they are planning to take even more. The loss of 400,000 acres of ranch land, Mr. Chairman, would devastate the economy of southeast Colorado.

The BRAC decision of 2005 stated that the Army did not need additional space. In 1970, the Army first looked at condemning land in El Paso County, which is now in Mr. LAMBORN's district for the original Pinon Canyon. Many residents from El Paso County fought against the possible land grab in their own backyard, and the site was eventually moved to southeast Colorado.

I would ask my fellow Members, if you can't support this in your backyard, please don't support it in my district.

Mr. EDWARDS. Mr. Chairman, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Chairman, let me say this is with mixed feelings: I want to make it clear that I think the Army has responsibility to these communities in Colorado to sit down with them, work with them and work with the landowners, because it is my understanding that at one point the Army made the statement that it would not exercise eminent domain.

I also want to clarify that there is no money in this bill to allow for any acquisition of any land. The money in this bill could be used by the Army to pursue plans to later acquire land.

I respect Mrs. MUSGRAVE and Mr. SALAZAR for their opposition, and I say that with great respect to you, Mr. SALAZAR, knowing of your service and your family's service to our Nation's military. The reason I personally oppose this amendment is that the Army sees Fort Carson as an important part of growing the Army, of bringing troops back from Germany and South

Korea, of implementing the BRAC process, and the Army has identified up to 5 million acres worldwide that they need for additional training operations.

□ 1515

Fort Carson is one of the tremendous beneficiaries of the BRAC 2005 process, getting two additional brigades that are moving from Fort Hood as well as additional forces there. So I am going to oppose the amendment because I believe it would stop even the planning process for even a smaller amount, much smaller than 418,000 acres. I understand why the gentlewoman and the gentleman are opposing what the Army's intentions are, but at least let's clarify that there is no money in this bill for land acquisition.

I yield to Mr. SALAZAR.

Mr. SALAZAR. I agree there is no money for actual land acquisition, but there is money for the planning process. Do you agree with me that in the 2005 BRAC decision that the Army clearly stated they did not need any additional land in Colorado when they moved the troops from Fort Hood to Colorado to Fort Carson? Is that correct?

Mr. EDWARDS. Reclaiming my time, actually, this is the first BRAC round, in 2005, that I actually voted against. One of the reasons was that I felt the Army was making some decisions that weren't in the best interests of the taxpayers and the Army. But the Army made their decisions. The BRAC recommendations were passed by the Congress, and now they are being implemented. I do have some concerns despite my opposition to BRAC 2005 that if we totally stop the planning for this expansion, we could seriously impact the training of forces during a critical time in the Army's history.

I respect the gentleman's position, and I am going to encourage the Army to sit down and meet with both Members who are sponsoring this amendment, and perhaps the gentlelady and gentleman can win this vote.

But if not, I am still going to encourage the Army to sit down and deal with the landowners and the people of Colorado, and the two of you in particular, to try to address this problem and the concerns, the legitimate concerns that you have raised.

Mr. WICKER. Mr. Chairman, I move to strike the requisite number of words.

The CHAIRMAN. The gentleman from Mississippi is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. WICKER. Mr. Chairman, for a different perspective, I yield to the gentleman from Colorado (Mr. LAMBORN).

Mr. LAMBORN. Mr. Chairman, I thank the ranking member for yielding me this time.

I rise today in opposition to this amendment which would cut off all funding to study an expansion of the Pinon Canyon maneuver site. This amendment would stop the Army from

providing the soldiers with much-needed additional training space, an action which could have serious negative consequences for the Army and for the brave men and women serving our Nation.

By prohibiting these funds, the Army would not even be able to study the area and complete an environmental impact statement. The purpose of an EIS is to assess the environmental, economic and other impacts of a proposed action before a Federal action is even taken up.

Private property rights are deeply important to me. Any option to increase the size of the PCMS should be thoroughly studied, and if plans for the expansion were to go forward, it should occur to the greatest extent possible, if not completely through willing sellers.

The type of enemy we are now facing overseas is much different than during the Cold War. PCMS contains terrain much like areas such as Iraq and Afghanistan. We are fortunate as a country to have this training area, but the Army has outgrown it. It would be a shame to not even study the possibility of using an existing facility that could easily be transformed into a 22nd-century facility. During the Cold War, divisions consisting of approximately 20,000 soldiers fought in relatively small areas in Europe. Consequently, training could be conducted in areas of approximately 22,000 acres or 5 by 7 miles. Today, brigade-size formations of approximately 3,500 soldiers must now operate in and control areas of approximately 615,000 acres, or 31 by 31 miles.

While Army units have gotten smaller, the battlefield has gotten larger. We owe our soldiers proper training for the conditions they will experience in other combat theaters. Not allowing the soldiers to train adequately puts them in harm's way.

The Army is simply asking for an opportunity to study an expansion. To deny them this opportunity would be to substitute political pressure for the considered judgment of our military commanders who are charged with training and protecting our troops.

It is unrealistic and irresponsible to think other public lands in Colorado or the West, such as roadless wilderness areas or national parks, could be used as a substitute. No critic of PCMS has come forward with a responsible and specific alternative. The longer distances involved would also make that difficult.

Over 200 soldiers from Fort Carson have died in Iraq and Afghanistan fighting terrorism. The soldiers and commanders at Fort Carson know what it takes to wage war in the 21st century, and they are serious about it. It would truly be a shame if they don't have the proper training facilities so that they can succeed. The Army should at least be given a chance to study the issue and present their findings.

I strongly urge my colleagues to oppose this amendment.

Mrs. MUSGRAVE. Would the gentleman yield?

Mr. WICKER. Mr. Chairman, I yield to the gentlewoman from Colorado (Mrs. MUSGRAVE), but I would express to all of my colleagues, though, that we are receiving calls from people who have made airline plans and are hoping to get back to their districts and to their homes for Father's Day. Mindful of that, I am happy to yield to the gentlelady.

Mrs. MUSGRAVE. Mr. Chairman, I would just like to point out that my son-in-law served in Afghanistan, and I would like to commend Mr. SALAZAR, his father and his son for their service to this great Nation and point out that in the 1970s the land was thought about in the Colorado Springs area in El Paso County, and the landowners there fought it.

And so when anyone would imply that Mr. SALAZAR and I, Mr. Chairman, are responding to political pressure, what we are doing is standing up for private property rights and balancing that with our concern that our soldiers have the proper training.

It is like Mr. SALAZAR said, you oppose it in your own yard, but it is okay for someone else. I am standing up for those ranchers. You might as well cross southeastern Colorado off the map if this expansion goes forward. So I respectfully look at the opinion of my friend from Colorado and I do say, though, that in this country the government owns enough land. There are alternatives to this that would be satisfactory in balancing our support for private property rights and our support for our troops.

Mr. UDALL of Colorado. Mr. Chairman, I support this amendment.

Passage of this amendment will not stop the proposed expansion of the Army's Pinon Canyon Maneuver Site in southeastern Colorado, but it will delay consideration of the Army's plans until two very important questions can be answered: (1) What are the Army's real training needs, and (2) will the Army assure Coloradans that it will not resort to condemnation to acquire land?

Before giving the Army money to take the first steps toward expanding these training grounds, we should be convinced that there is a real military need for the Army to acquire an additional 418,000 acres. I have kept an open mind on this question and that that is why, along with the Chairman and Ranking Member of the Readiness Subcommittee of the House Armed Services Committee, I have asked the Government Accountability Office to report to Congress on whether this expansion is the right way to meet the Army's training requirements and what other alternatives the Army should consider.

More important, it is abundantly clear to me that there is no support—even among proponents of an expansion—for the Army's use of eminent domain to acquire any land. But so far, the Army has been reluctant to give the State of Colorado and the landowners in the area a commitment that it will not resort to condemnation. For me, that commitment is essential, and unless and until the Army makes clear it will not use condemnation, I believe

Congress should not allow the expansion process to go forward.

The CHAIRMAN. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentlewoman from Colorado (Mrs. MUSGRAVE).

The question was taken; and the Chairman announced that the yeas appeared to have it.

Mr. SALAZAR. Mr. Chairman, I demand a recorded vote.

The CHAIRMAN. Pursuant to clause 6 of rule XVIII, further proceedings on the amendment offered by the gentlewoman from Colorado will be postponed.

Mr. EDWARDS. Mr. Chairman, I move to strike the last word.

The CHAIRMAN. The gentleman from Texas is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. EDWARDS. Mr. Chairman, Mr. WICKER and I would not want to cut off any Member from expressing his or her heartfelt views on important issues in this bill, but we would like to bring to the attention of the House and our colleagues that there are a number of colleagues trying to catch airplanes to get back home for Father's Day weekend. There are a number of amendments that are subject to a point of order. I would like to respectfully request Members on those amendments to keep your remarks to 2 minutes. I will reserve my right to exercise a point of order. If we take too much time, we might have to go ahead and exercise those points of order.

If we could proceed ahead expeditiously, I would appreciate that.

AMENDMENT NO. 3 OFFERED BY MR. HALL OF NEW YORK

Mr. HALL of New York. Mr. Chairman, I offer an amendment.

The CHAIRMAN. The Clerk will designate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

Amendment No. 3 offered by Mr. HALL of New York:

At the end of the bill (before the short title), insert the following:

SEC. _____. None of the funds made available in this Act may be used to provide to any officer of the Department of Veterans Affairs who is appointed by the President, by and with the consent of the Senate, or to any Deputy Under Secretary or Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Department of Veterans Affairs a performance award under section 5384 of title 5, United States Code, or a performance-based cash award under section 4505a of such title.

The CHAIRMAN. Pursuant to the order of the House of today, the gentleman from New York (Mr. HALL) and a Member opposed each will control 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New York.

Mr. HALL of New York. Mr. Chairman, my amendment makes a small change to funding at the Department of Veterans Affairs. It would prohibit any funding to be spent for performance bonuses to senior level staff at the Department for fiscal year 2008.

This amendment would effectively mean no person in a Presidential-appointed position or Secretary-level position would receive a performance bonus during the coming fiscal year.

As I begin, let me state that the Department of Veterans Affairs has done a very good job in many areas for our Nation's veterans. In fact, its health care system is rated amongst the very best in the country, and the demand of veterans to get into the system speaks to the high level of care that it provides.

However, there remains a significant need for improvement in many areas. In the last 3 years, the VA has underestimated its health care budget by nearly \$1 billion. It has roughly 600,000 veterans claims backlogged and veterans currently waiting an average of 177 days before receiving a decision on their claim.

Furthermore, according to a draft Inspector General's report, the VA is significantly overstating its success in getting patients timely appointments with VA doctors. The number of claims pending before the Department has steadily increased over the last 5 years. The current wait time is nearly 2 months longer than what Secretary Nicholson suggested in front of our Veterans Affairs Subcommittee would be acceptable to him, which was 125 days rather than the 177 currently being suffered by our veterans. That is nearly a 2-month difference.

The Secretary himself called this "unacceptable." However, the awards for bonuses last year ranged up to and included a number of members of high management at the VA of \$33,000 in annual bonus. Their award bonuses were because of evaluations of outstanding and excellent. In fact, 87 percent of the senior staff were called "outstanding" or "excellent" in performance. One of those who got the \$33,000 bonus had only served in his position from February 2006 until September 2006. So an outstanding performance for 6 months earned that individual a \$33,000 bonus; this at a time when our veterans are waiting 177 days average to have their claims for disability heard. And if they go to an appeal, it is an average of 2 years to wait for that appeal to be heard. This simply makes no sense. It is either unacceptable or it is outstanding, but it can't be both.

I am sure that most of the staff at the Department is dedicated and hard-working and the service they provided in often excellent, but in other areas it is unsatisfactory. Our veterans deserve accountability from the VA. Yet Secretary Nicholson himself has signed off on all of these bonuses, making only one change since 2004.

Veterans in my district and across the country were outraged when The Washington Post and the Army Times broke this story a couple of months ago. The VA Committee and the Subcommittee on Oversight invited Secretary Nicholson to testify this week and explain the bonuses. However, he

decline and decided instead to send a substitute who admitted to knowing very little about the issue.

I understand that the chairman wants to study and best address this issue; and I would prefer that rather than eliminating bonuses altogether that we have them tied to performance, as bonuses should be. So if the chairman agrees, I would like to work with him and other Members on a separate piece of legislation to add accountability to the bonus process to the Department.

As in private industry, bonuses at the VA should be tied to performance, and I believe all of us want to see that happen, want to see the backlog reduced, and want to see our veterans get their claims processed promptly.

Mr. Chairman, I yield to the chairman.

Mr. EDWARDS. Mr. Chairman, I want to thank Mr. HALL for his strong leadership; first, on trying to see that this Congress, which we are going to do in this bill, provides the funding to reduce the terrible backlog of veterans cases pending. As he mentioned, there are over 400,000-plus veterans waiting for their cases to be considered.

And, secondly, for bringing to the attention of the Congress the problems raised by the bonuses given to a number of VA employees at a time when so many veterans are waiting for their benefits.

I thank the gentleman for agreeing to withdraw the amendment. We have every intention of working with him and the Veterans' Affairs Committee on which he serves as a subcommittee chairman to address the inequities of this situation.

Mr. HALL of New York. Mr. Chairman, with the chairman's agreement, I ask unanimous consent to withdraw the amendment.

The CHAIRMAN. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from New York?

Mr. BUYER. Mr. Chairman, reserving the right to object, this amendment is either ill-conceived or politically conceived in that the Deputy Secretary is the gentleman who came to the committee to testify, and that was by agreement at the committee.

So to say that the administration sent someone who was uninformed is not a good way to address this to our colleagues.

□ 1530

That was by agreement of the committee, and it was the Deputy Secretary of the VA who came in and who testified, and as a matter of fact, his testimony, that I will share with all my colleagues, is that he testified just last week during the Oversight and Investigations Subcommittee hearing on the SEC bonuses, at which the author of this amendment was present and he said, by statute, senior executive presidentially appointed and Senate-confirmed appointees are not eligible for performance bonuses.

Did you hear that? They're not eligible for bonuses. So what we have here is, the gentleman's brought an amendment that is either redundant, multiplicitous or unnecessary.

With that, I withdraw my reservation of objection.

The CHAIRMAN. Without objection, the amendment is withdrawn.

There was no objection.

Mr. EDWARDS. Mr. Chairman, I move to strike the last word.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from Texas is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. EDWARDS. Mr. Chairman, I yield to the gentleman from New York (Mr. HALL).

Mr. HALL of New York. Mr. Chairman, thank you for agreeing to allow the amendment to be withdrawn.

For the record, I would like to say that Under Secretary Mansfield, under oath this week at the Subcommittee on Oversight hearing, at least six times answered that he did not know the information and would have to go back and respond in writing. And one of those times specifically had to do with an individual who was identified by the Congressional Research Service as being a presidential appointee who is among those receiving bonuses.

So at least in one case that may need to be clarified.

AMENDMENT OFFERED BY MS. JACKSON-LEE OF TEXAS

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Chairman, I offer an amendment.

The CHAIRMAN. The Clerk will designate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

Amendment offered by Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas:

Page 49, after line 11, insert the following new section:

SEC. 409. (a) The Secretary of Veterans Affairs shall increase the number of medical centers specializing in post-traumatic stress disorder in underserved urban areas, which shall include using the services of existing health care entities.

(b) At least one of the existing health care institutions used by the Secretary pursuant to subsection (a) shall be—

(1) located in an area defined as a HUBzone (as that term is defined in section 3(p) of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 632(p)) on the basis of one or more qualified census tracts;

(2) located within a State that has sustained more than five percent of the total casualties suffered by the United States Armed Forces in Operation Enduring Freedom and Operation Iraqi Freedom, as May 1, 2007; and

(3) have at least 20 years experience and significant expertise in providing treatment and counseling services with respect to substance abuse, alcohol addiction, and psychiatric or stress-related disorders to populations with special needs, including veterans and members of the Armed Forces serving on active duty.

The CHAIRMAN. Pursuant to the order of the House of today, the gentleman from Texas (Ms. JACKSON-LEE) and a Member opposed each will control 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Texas.

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Chairman, let me offer my appreciation to the full Committee on Appropriations, both the chairman and ranking member, and to this subcommittee. I've seen enormous commitment to bipartisanship between Mr. EDWARDS and, of course, Mr. WICKER. But my good colleague and friend from Texas has outdone himself, and this particular veterans appropriation, the Military Construction Veterans Affairs appropriation, signifies nothing but joy for Americans and veterans all across this country.

Might I just cite the fact that this bill moves above the President's budget in medical services, making it \$28.9 billion; moves above the President's request on homeless vets, \$130 million; moves above the President's request on medical facilities, \$4.1 billion; and moves above it on extended care facilities, \$165 million.

Many of us have risen to the floor today to talk about post-traumatic stress. I just wanted to remind my colleagues of the kind of horror and nightmare that many of our soldiers and returning soldiers and veterans live with, suffering from PTSD. It is simply to acknowledge the fact that over and over again you relive the tragedy of the experience, whether it's small arms fire, whether it's IEDs, whether it's seeing your comrade fall in battle in front of you, whether it's seeing his body implode, you know that you're reliving it, and the number one basis of PTSD is military and combat exposure.

Just for the record, let me acknowledge that 94 percent of the soldiers in Iraq reported receiving small arms fire; 86 percent of soldiers in Iraq reported knowing someone who was seriously injured or killed. This is a major issue and it is a major part of the lives of our soldiers.

Mr. Chairman, my amendment simply was to do this: It was to provide more medical centers in places like rural areas or small cities to be able to be utilized for PTSD. I know Chairman EDWARDS knows this issue because it was his leadership that generated the change of the Waco veterans hospital into a mental health facility. I want that to continue to stand, and I want to thank him for the increased dollars he's put in for PTSD.

But, Mr. Chairman, I have a veterans advisory committee that's indicated that we need centers around the Nation, smaller centers maybe in small hospitals, that would respond to veterans and returning soldiers, maybe even to the extent of reimbursing them by being in those particular centers.

Let me close by simply saying that this bill is comprehensive. I look forward to working with the chairman on more permanent housing for the disabled, as we work toward more PTSD facilities, even though we have a great amount of resources here, more adjusted housing, if you will, for those who are coming back so they're not living alone.

I want to take special privilege to acknowledge the DeGeorge in my community for my homeless vets, a facility for homeless vets, DeGeorge at Union Station and U.S. Vets. All of them confront veterans and returning soldiers with PTSD. If we expand these facilities so that rural and small cities and even inner city areas, which is what my amendment is focused on, everybody would have the opportunity to be able to access help with PTSD.

I would ask my colleagues to consider as we move toward conference to be able to work on this issue in an expanded way.

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Chairman, I rise to speak in strong support of the bill and in favor of my amendment. I also rise to express my sincere appreciation to Mr. EDWARDS, the chairman of the Appropriations I subcommittee on Veterans Affairs and Military Construction, and the Chairman of the Veterans Affairs Committee, Mr. FILNER, for all they have done and continue to do to make real President Lincoln's admonition that "we care for him who has borne the battle, and for his widow and orphan."

In particular, I wish to commend Chairman EDWARDS, for the leadership, commitment, and foresight he has demonstrated on the issue of PTSD and the overall mental health of our nation's veterans. On February 28, 2007, he announced that \$3 million has been made available for the Waco VA PTSD program in 2006 which is now available so that researchers at Fort Hood, Texas A&M, Baylor, the Temple VA, and the Waco VA hospital work towards realizing their goal of making the Waco VA, in conjunction with Ft. Hood and the Temple VA, a world-class PTSD and mental health care research center.

Like Mr. EDWARDS and Mr. Filner, I am committed to improving the lives of thousands of veterans who have risked their lives for our nation, and I believe my amendment plays a crucial role in ensuring that veterans suffering from PTSD receive the medical treatment they desperately need.

Mr. Chairman, thank you for this opportunity to explain my amendment to H.R. 2642, the Veterans Affairs and Military Construction Appropriations Act for Fiscal Year of 2008. As a Member of Congress from Texas, a state which has sustained more casualties in the ongoing conflicts in Afghanistan and Iraq than all but one other, I am pleased to offer this amendment. This amendment is intended to address the urgent need for more post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) treatment and counseling facilities servicing veterans living in some of the more distressed areas of our country.

Mr. Chairman, according to Webster's, dignity is "the quality or condition of being esteemed, honored or worthy." We can never do enough to honor our wounded veterans. Studies have shown that 30 percent of troops deployed to Iraq suffer from depression, anxiety, or post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD). However, when wounded troops return home the treatment they receive is more befitting a second class citizen than a hero. This is a shame and a great stain on our nation.

How these problems could be overlooked or neglected by this Administration is unfathomable. The very leaders that these brave young men and women rely on let them

down. The message that incidents like Walter Reed Medical Center sends to our troops is that we do not care enough. But that is not the message we wish to send. The Veterans Administration and Military Construction Appropriations Act of 2008, H.R. 2642, will go long away toward correcting this misapprehension. All members of the House are indebted to our colleague, Mr. EDWARDS of Texas, for his masterful leadership in shepherding this landmark legislation to the House floor. For the 25,380, 2,401 from Texas, brave men and women who have been wounded in Iraq and Afghanistan, help is on the way. And the 3,519, 298 from Texas, heroes who have given the last full measure of devotion will always be in our hearts and prayers.

Mr. Chairman, my amendment requires the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to increase the number of medical facilities specializing in post-traumatic stress disorder located in underserved urban areas. Access to post-traumatic stress disorder treatment is especially important since veterans living in such areas are less likely to be diagnosed and treated for post-traumatic stress disorder.

Mr. Chairman, PTSD is one of the most prevalent and devastating psychological wounds suffered by the brave men and women fighting in far off lands to defend the values and freedom we hold dear.

For those of us whose daily existence is not lived in harm's way, it is difficult to imagine the horrific images that American servicemen and women deployed in Iraq, Afghanistan, and other theaters of war see on a daily basis. In an instant a suicide bomber, an IED, or an insurgent can obliterate your best friend and right in front of your face. Yet, you are trained and expected to continue on with the mission, and you do, even though you may not even have reached your 20th birthday.

But there always comes a reckoning. And it usually comes after stress and trauma of battle is over and you are alone with your thoughts and memories. And the horror of those desperate and dangerous encounters with the enemy and your own mortality come flooding back.

PTSD was first brought to public attention in relation to war veterans, but it can result from a variety of traumatic incidents, such as mugging, rape, torture, being kidnapped or held captive, child abuse, car accidents, train wrecks, plane crashes, bombings, or natural disasters such as floods or earthquakes.

People with PTSD may startle easily, become emotionally numb, especially in relation to people with whom they used to be close, lose interest in things they used to enjoy, have trouble feeling affectionate, be irritable, become more aggressive, or even become violent. They avoid situations that remind them of the original incident, and anniversaries of the incident are often very difficult. PTSD symptoms seem to be worse if the event that triggered them was deliberately initiated by another person, as in a mugging or a kidnapping. Most people with PTSD repeatedly relive the trauma in their thoughts during the day and in nightmares when they sleep. These are called flashbacks. Flashbacks may consist of images, sounds, smells, or feelings, and are often triggered by ordinary occurrences, such as a door slamming or a car backfiring on the street. A person having a flashback may lose touch with reality and believe that the traumatic incident is happening all over again.

Mr. Chairman, the matter is that most veterans with PTSD also have other psychiatric disorders, which are a consequence of PTSD. These veterans have co-occurring disorders, which include depression, alcohol and/or drug abuse problems, panic, and/or other anxiety disorders.

The current conflicts in Afghanistan and Iraq are the most continuous combat operations since Vietnam. Only one comprehensive study has examined the mental health impact of the wars in Afghanistan and Iraq, and that was performed by Charles W. Hoge, MD. This study looked at the experience of soldiers in the war zone and symptoms of psychological distress. Soldiers in Iraq are at risk for being killed or wounded themselves, are likely to have witnessed the suffering of others, and may have participated in killing or wounding others as part of combat operations. All of these activities have a demonstrated association with the development of PTSD. Hoge's study indicated that 94 percent of soldiers in Iraq reported receiving small-arms fire. In addition, 86 percent of soldiers in Iraq reported knowing someone who was seriously injured or killed, 68 percent reported seeing dead or seriously injured Americans, and 51 percent reported handling or uncovering human remains. The majority, 77 percent, of soldiers deployed to Iraq reported shooting or directing fire at the enemy, 48 percent reported being responsible for the death of an enemy combatant, and 28 percent reported being responsible for the death of a noncombatant.

My amendment recognizes that these soldiers are first and foremost, human. They carry their experiences with them. Ask a Vietnam Veteran about the frequency of nightmares they experience, and one will realize that serving in the Armed Forces leaves a lasting impression, whether good or bad. My amendment ensures that no soldier is left behind. By directing the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to increase the number of medical facilities specializing in PTSD that are located in underserved urban areas, and conducting a concurrent study on increasing access to PTSD treatment at these facilities those soldiers will never feel forgotten or taken for granted. These soldiers can be certain that Members of Congress will ensure that they receive the necessary treatment to guarantee that their adjustment back into society is a successful one.

As the war in Iraq continues to drag on, and with our country continuing to send military personnel to Afghanistan, the military has been overwhelmed with returning soldiers suffering from mental health problems. Earlier this month, Col. Elspeth Ritchie, psychiatry consultant to the Army surgeon general, stated "as the war has gone on, PTSD and other psychological effects of war have increased. The number of mental health workers that was adequate for a peacetime military is not adequate for a nation that's been at war."

Mr. Chairman, according to surveys conducted of troops in Iraq, 15–20 percent of Army soldiers have demonstrated signs of post-traumatic stress. Symptoms of this serious disorder include nightmares, flashbacks, emotional detachment, dissociation, insomnia, loss of appetite, memory loss, clinical depression, and anxiety. One year after returning from combat, approximately 35 percent of soldiers are seeking some kind of mental health treatment. Among soldiers still stationed in

Iraq and Afghanistan, many incidents of abuse, including killings and rapes by U.S. soldiers, have been attributed to ethics lapses caused by the strain of combat.

Mr. Chairman, last Thursday, the Department of Defense released a report that stated "current efforts fall significantly short" in providing help for troops. Further, this report found that the psychological health needs of America's military service members, their families and their survivors pose a daunting and growing challenge to the Department of Defense.

I urge adoption of my amendment. And I thank the Chairman for his fine work in bringing this exceptional legislation to the House floor where it should receive an overwhelmingly favorable vote.

Mr. EDWARDS. Mr. Chairman, will the gentlewoman yield?

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. I yield to the gentleman from Texas.

Mr. EDWARDS. Mr. Chairman, I thank the gentlewoman and particularly want to salute her for her strong support for veterans and, in particular, for PTSD and mental health care studies.

As she knows, this bill has a significant increase in funding, historic increase in funding, for VA medical care, and we have directed in the report of the bill that a significant part of that money should go to PTSD and mental health care services.

So I hope with the funding levels in this bill we will have opportunities to provide the kind of expanded service that the gentlewoman has spoken about so eloquently.

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Chairman, I thank the distinguished gentleman, and I ask unanimous consent to withdraw my amendment.

The CHAIRMAN. Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from Texas?

There was no objection.

AMENDMENT OFFERED BY MR. UPTON

Mr. UPTON. Mr. Chairman, I offer an amendment.

The CHAIRMAN. The Clerk will designate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

Amendment offered by Mr. UPTON:

At the end of the bill (before the short title), insert the following:

SEC. 409. None of the funds made available in this Act may be used to purchase light bulbs unless the light bulbs have the "ENERGY STAR" designation.

The CHAIRMAN. Pursuant to the order of the House of today, the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. UPTON) and a Member opposed each will control 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Michigan.

Mr. UPTON. Mr. Chairman, I first want to thank Chairman EDWARDS and Ranking Member WICKER, Mr. OBEY and others, particularly my coauthor, Ms. HARMAN, on this amendment.

As Congress tackles climate change legislation and examines ways to promote energy efficiency, it is so important that the Federal Government set

a proper example, taking the lead in commonsense conservation measures. Some would say this is an amendment that sets a shining example for the rest of the country.

The Federal Government has to be the world's largest consumer of light bulbs, and with this amendment, we will likely save American taxpayers probably as much as \$100 million.

Why Energy Star light bulbs? Well, current incandescent bulbs on store shelves are obsolete, and they're highly inefficient. In fact, only 10 percent of the energy consumed by each bulb is for light, with 90 percent wasted on unnecessary heat.

Energy Star light bulbs use about 75 percent less energy than the standard incandescent bulbs, as they last as much as 10 times longer. In fact, if every house in the Nation switched to Energy Star bulbs, we would have the potential to annually reduce the emissions equivalent of 80 coal-burning plants each year, saving 65 billion kilowatts.

This amendment will make the Federal Government a shining example of how we can conserve energy, one light bulb at a time.

Mr. Chairman, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. EDWARDS. Mr. Chairman, I move to strike the last word.

The CHAIRMAN. The gentleman from Texas is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. EDWARDS. Mr. Chairman, if my colleagues will excuse the pun, I want to thank the gentleman for enlightening the VA and the DOD on this issue. I'm glad to support this amendment. It is an important issue, and we can set a good example for the country by passing it.

The CHAIRMAN. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. UPTON).

The amendment was agreed to.

Mr. EDWARDS. Mr. Chairman, I move to strike the last word.

The CHAIRMAN. The gentleman from Texas is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. EDWARDS. Mr. Chairman, it is now my pleasure to yield to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. ORTIZ), a valued leader on armed services and veterans issues.

Mr. ORTIZ. Mr. Chairman, on behalf of our south Texas veterans, we appreciate the committee's concern regarding access to inpatient and outpatient care for our far south Texas veterans.

Let me say I compliment you, Mr. Chairman, for doing such a great job and for having way down in your heart the care of the veterans that served in many, many wars, not only in Iraq and Afghanistan.

These veterans have to travel upwards of 6 hours each way to receive inpatient care, and many times they have their appointments cancelled. As you know, the VA's currently finalizing a study on options to provide inpatient and outpatient specialty care which will be out this July.

And Mr. Chairman, as you know, this war has resulted in many casualties.

We've had over 46 young men killed in this war. We have lost more, between Chairman HINOJOSA and I, 46 soldiers. In addition, we've had many more soldiers maimed and injured; and what we would like to see, Mr. Chairman, would be the committee work with us to move the issue of a veterans hospital in south Texas forward.

Mr. EDWARDS. I thank the chairman for his strong leadership over the years on behalf of the veterans in south Texas.

With that, I'd like to yield to my colleague and close friend, Mr. HINOJOSA.

Mr. HINOJOSA. Mr. Chairman, I rise today in strong support of H.R. 2642, and I also rise on behalf of myself, the Honorable Congressman ORTIZ and the Honorable Congressman CUELLAR and the more than 75 veterans who in the fall of 2005 walked in the hot sun a long, long 250 miles from Edinburg, Texas, to San Antonio to raise the level of awareness of a badly needed veterans hospital in south Texas.

I want to sincerely thank Chairman EDWARDS for your outstanding leadership and for the past support for veterans affairs. I look forward to working with you to accomplish what naysayers have said, that it will never get done.

And finally, I want to emphasize that our south Texas veterans and the south Texas congressional delegation have been fighting for a veterans hospital for more than 20 years. While the VA has a contract for a few hospital beds, those 10 beds are not enough to take care of the more than 75,000 veterans living in the eight county region. Once the VA releases their report next month, will the chairman work with us to address any shortfalls that are identified for inpatient care in south Texas?

Mr. EDWARDS. Reclaiming my time, Mr. Chairman, let me say the answer to that is yes. As a native son of south Texas, as someone who grew up admiring Dr. Hector Garcia, the great World War II veteran who founded the American GI forum as you know, I have always stood in awe of the service of south Texans and Hispanic Americans as well in south Texas to our country in time of war and in time of our greatest need.

While a veterans hospital in south Texas would have to be authorized by the VA authorization committee, if that were to be done, certainly again as a native son of south Texas, it'd be a dream come true for all of us who care about that part of the country to see a hospital built.

The data will have to be there. The report should be a very important one coming in July, but until that report comes, let me just say in the meantime that veterans all across south Texas have benefited from the hard work of Mr. HINOJOSA and our colleague Mr. ORTIZ, and they're getting services today they wouldn't have gotten without your help, and I salute you both for that effort.

AMENDMENT OFFERED BY MR. PEARCE

Mr. PEARCE. Mr. Chairman, I offer an amendment.

The CHAIRMAN. The Clerk will designate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

Amendment offered by Mr. PEARCE:
At the end of the bill (before the short title), insert the following:

SEC. _____. None of the funds made available in this Act may be used to reimburse employees of the Department of Veterans Affairs for official travel expenses until the Secretary of Veterans Affairs increases the mileage reimbursement rate payable under section 111 of title 38, United States Code, to individuals traveling to or from a Department facility so that such rate is equal to the rate payable to Federal Government employees traveling on official business in privately-owned vehicles, as prescribed by the Administrator of General Services under section 5707(b) of title 5, United States Code.

The CHAIRMAN. Pursuant to the order of the House of today, the gentleman from New Mexico (Mr. PEARCE) and a Member opposed each will control 5 minutes.

Mr. EDWARDS. Mr. Chairman, I reserve a point of order on the gentleman's amendment.

The CHAIRMAN. A point of order is reserved.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New Mexico.

Mr. PEARCE. Mr. Chairman, we call our veterans from World War II America's greatest generation but our actions don't always hold water.

I rise today to offer an amendment to the Military Construction-Veterans Affairs appropriations bill which would ensure veterans are appropriately reimbursed for mileage travel to and from medical facilities in New Mexico or large rural States.

Many times people in my county, 305 miles away from Albuquerque one way, are directed to drive to Albuquerque. These people, many are like my father in their 80s, they cannot travel 5½ hours one way. It's unthinkable that we do that. It's unconscionable that we only pay them 11 cents a mile.

From Hobbs to Albuquerque, 305 miles one way, the reimbursement is \$34. I would like to ask anyone in this chamber how they would expect to drive 305 miles for \$34, but even worse, the Veterans' Administration takes a fee when they get there. Approximately \$7.50 of the \$34 is then sacrificed to the VA.

□ 1545

No allowance is made to sleep overnight. No allowance is made for hotel. No allowance is made for any circumstance except turning around and driving another 5½ hours to get back home. We are reimbursing all that driving at 11 cents a mile.

Meanwhile many of us in government jobs, all Federal officials are reimbursed at 48½ cents per mile because that's the going rate. That's the rate that we should be paying, and yet to America's Greatest Generation, we're paying 11 cents a mile.

Now, the director of the service, the Secretary, could change this by regulation, and all people on this House floor agree that it should be changed. Back in March of 2007, March of this year, we passed the Wounded Warrior Act, H.R. 1538, by a vote of 426-0, where we mandated that the Secretary actually do this.

But we also know in Washington that we play games with people, we play games with our veterans. So that bill now is trapped over in the Senate.

What my amendment simply does is say we would like for the Secretary not to pay anyone mileage from this bill, from H.R. 2642, until he remedies the situation with our veterans. Pay them what the mileage costs them to drive. We are mandating that they go that far to the facilities. That's unthinkable, but it's unconscionable that we are paying only 11 cents a mile.

So while we are claiming America's generation, America's World War II veterans, to be our Greatest Generation, let's begin to act with honor and reimburse them the way that we should. My amendment would ensure that.

Mr. Chairman, I reserve the balance of my time.

POINT OF ORDER

Mr. EDWARDS. Mr. Chairman, I rise to make a point of order.

Mr. Chairman, let me just say we all know that 11 cents per mile is inadequate. We need to deal with it. I don't think this amendment is the right way and the right time to do that.

Mr. Chairman, I would like to make a point of order against the amendment because it proposes to change existing law and constitutes legislation in an appropriation bill and therefore violates clause 2 of rule XXI.

The rule states in pertinent part: an amendment to a general appropriation bill shall not be in order if changing an existing law imposes additional duties.

The CHAIRMAN. Does any other Member wish to be heard on the point of order?

Mr. PEARCE. Mr. Chairman, I would say to the chairman that I understand and accept that, but I would point out to the chairman that we have legislated this way through appropriations before, and we'll do it again.

I would simply make the point that the point of order today says we will not do what our seniors and what our veterans deserve for us to do one more time.

Mr. Chairman, I yield back the balance of my time and graciously accept the gentleman's comments in his point of order and thank him for his work on this bill.

The CHAIRMAN. The amendment imposes a legislative condition on the availability of funds, namely, the increasing of a reimbursement rate not required under current law.

As such, the amendment constitutes legislation under clause 2 of rule XXI. The point of order is sustained.

Mr. EDWARDS. Mr. Chairman, I move to strike the last word, and I

yield to the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. DONNELLY).

Mr. DONNELLY. Mr. Chairman, I want to commend you on this bill and what a tremendous job your committee has done in producing this. I want to make sure that the Veterans Administration uses the added resources that you have provided to help reduce the disability claims that we have seen getting backlogged. We need to reduce that backlog in the most efficient manner possible.

Mr. Chairman, I strongly support this underlying bill. For the first time in years, Congress is going to provide the kind of resources the VA should have in order to provide the level of health care and customer service that America's veterans have earned through their service.

I commend you and the committee for drafting a bill that we can all be proud of and that works for our veterans.

Today, America's disabled veterans must wait an average of almost 6 months for the VA to make a decision on their initial claim. Right now, as we speak, almost half a million veterans have pending claims that have already exceeded that 6-month time period, a period of time, I believe, that is far, far too long.

With hundreds of thousands of returning veterans from Iraq and Afghanistan, we can only expect the demand for services to rise. This is an unacceptable situation, as you well know, Mr. Chairman, and it's a result from two occurrences, insufficient resources at the VA to process claims and a system that fundamentally needs to be improved. We commend you because this bill starts to address the funding issues that we face.

H.R. 2642 provides invaluable new resources to address the VA's deficiencies, including funding for over 1,000 additional claim workers. I want to make sure the VA is doing everything possible in considering every opportunity to use the funds you are using in a wise fashion.

The Government Accountability Office has made eight commonsense recommendations to how it can improve the disability claims process at the VA. This report, most recently reiterated on May 25, is a report that deals with our wounded warriors and how to take care of them better. It has eight strategic ways to fix the disability claims situation.

However, according to the GAO, the VA is not moving on these eight recommendations. I think the Congress should know why the VA is not moving forward with these, and if they do move forward, they should let us know when and how they are going to implement these recommendations. We should require the VA to report back to Congress on what it is doing to implement the GAO recommendations and how they can improve this process.

Mr. Chairman, we are grateful. The veterans of Indiana's Second District

are grateful for the increase in funds, and we ask your help in making sure that the VA uses those funds in a wise way and reduces the disability claims backlog.

Mr. EDWARDS. Mr. Chairman, reclaiming my time, let me thank Mr. DONNELLY for his leadership and seeing that we did put additional funding in this bill to hire, as he mentioned, over 1,000 new VA case workers, actually over 1,100 VA case workers to reduce that absolutely unacceptable backlog of handling veterans cases.

I also look forward to working with the gentleman in the months ahead to see how we can implement the GAO recommendations, to see we not only have additional money for the VA to reduce that management backlog, but to see that we are putting in place management practices to reduce it even further.

This is not the first time the gentleman has spoken out on behalf of veterans on this problem. I thank him for his continued leadership on this effort.

Mr. DONNELLY. I thank you for your leadership and your wisdom on this issue.

Mr. EDWARDS. Mr. Chairman, I move to strike the last word.

The CHAIRMAN. The gentleman is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. EDWARDS. At this time I would like to yield to my colleague and friend, a distinguished veteran who comes to this Congress as the highest ranking enlisted officer to have ever served in Congress, the gentleman from Minnesota (Mr. WALZ).

Mr. WALZ of Minnesota. Thank you to the distinguished colleague and gentleman from Texas.

Mr. Chairman, having been a member of our armed services for over 20 years and a member of many of our veterans service organizations for a long time and now as a representative of tens of thousands of veterans, I can assure you that no one has been a bigger supporter and fought harder for veterans than the gentleman from Texas.

It is an honor to stand here as we have crafted, I believe, under his leadership, one of the best pieces of legislation that has ever come through the House. I thank you for that, Mr. Chairman.

Having represented the district of southern Minnesota that includes the Mayo Clinic, the efficiency and quality of care in health care services is of deep concern to me.

One of the areas that I am concerned with, and one that I look forward to working with the chairman and his committee on, is how we figure out how to make sure that VA and the Department of Defense are fully cooperating in the efficient use of their health care resources.

In the past, the VA and the DOD have been encouraged by Congress to do the best they can to make sure they share those resources effectively. Some great examples of successes come out of that. Joint purchasing of pharmaceuticals

has been one of those where we have seen great savings for our Nation, great savings for our veterans.

A year ago, the Government Accountability Office found that the VA and DOD are, indeed, making progress. But they also made some suggestions where they said standards must be developed to measure that performance in order to determine whether they are doing an adequate job of sharing their health care resources.

A year later yet we haven't seen, even though DOD and VA have agreed, we haven't seen them implement some of those recommendations.

Once, again, I applaud the chairman for a great piece of legislation, very thoughtful. I applaud my friends on other side of the aisle for great cooperation, thoughtful care, and an absolute commitment, a moral commitment to taking care of our veterans.

I look forward to working with you on this issue in the future to make sure that we are not only taking care of our veterans at the highest quality standard; we are also safeguarding those precious resources of the American taxpayers to make sure we are not duplicating services when we don't have to and to make sure that we are maximizing our effort.

Mr. EDWARDS. Mr. Chairman, reclaiming my time. I want to thank the gentleman for his distinguished military service to our country. Veterans of America ought to be grateful to having someone like you with your experience on the VA Committee.

You have taken a leadership position this year. Particularly we look forward to working with you in getting the VA and DOD to work together. There needs to be a seamless transition as someone moves from active duty or is a member of the Guard and Reserves into the VA health care system or the VA benefits system. We know we will have a better system because of your leadership, and we will work with you.

Mr. Chairman, I yield to my colleague and very close friend from Texas (Mr. GENE GREEN) for a unanimous consent request.

(Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas. Mr. Chairman, I rise in support of this appropriations bill and thank Chairman OBEY, Chairman EDWARDS, and our ranking members for their work in setting a new standard for funding our veterans program.

Mr. Chairman, I rise today in support of this appropriations bill, and to congratulate Chairman EDWARDS and Ranking Member and Chairman OBEY for their work in crafting this bill that sets a new standard for funding veterans' programs.

For the first time since the veterans' service organizations began producing their independent budget, Congress has met and even exceeded their request in this bill. The bill appropriates a total of \$87.7 billion for veterans' programs, which marks a \$6.7 billion increase in funding for the Department of Veterans Affairs—the largest increase in veterans' health care funding in the 77-year history of the VA.

This level of funding lets veterans, our troops, and their families know this Congress is going to make sure the promises we made to the men and women who fight for our country will be fulfilled, even after they are done with their service. The wait times at VA medical facilities have increased in recent years; the number of veterans has increased and will continue to grow in the coming years as service members return from Iraq and Afghanistan; and unspeakable conditions at Walter Reed uncovered earlier this year all require attention, and this bill ensures there is funding to address these problems.

During a time of war, we need to demonstrate a strong commitment not only to our troops currently serving, but to those who have returned from service and those who fought to defend our country in previous conflicts. I would also like to offer my support for a project request to provide funding for a fire station at Ellington Field, and I hope the chairman will give it strong consideration as projects are funded.

The existing fire station at Ellington field is in a rapidly deteriorating condition and does not meet OSHA or Air Force standards. Roof leaks and lack of insulation result in equipment being destroyed and extremely high operating costs. New firefighting apparatus must be parked outside the station because they will not fit into the truck bays.

This fire station supports all flying operations at Ellington Field including Air National Guard, Army National Guard, U.S. Coast Guard, NASA, and civilian aircraft. Construction of a new fire station at Ellington is critical for the Texas Air National Guard and all units stationed at Ellington Field.

Mr. Chairman, I again applaud the leadership from the chairmen who drafted this bill, and I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting this legislation.

Mr. EDWARDS. Mr. Chairman, I move to strike the last word.

These will be my last remarks of the day. We have had a lot of debate here over the last 4 hours.

I just want to say that we are facing a historic moment. Never before in the history of this Congress have we voted on the floor of this House to increase veterans health care spending by the level we will in just a few moments.

I want to thank all those who have been part of it. I want to salute Speaker PELOSI for having said we must keep our promises to our veterans. I want to salute Chairman OBEY; Congressman SPRATT, the chairman of the Budget Committee; Mr. FILNER, the chairman of the Veterans' Affairs Committee; as well as Mr. WICKER and the others who have worked on this in a bipartisan basis.

As the son of a World War II veteran, son of a dad I love greatly for his service to our country, as my mentor was Congressman Olin B. "Tiger" Teague, known as Mr. Veteran in Congress for over 32 years, his service here, what an honor and privilege, and humbling privilege it is to me to work with us here today to pass this historic bill for America's veterans.

We know we can never repay our debt of gratitude, but this bill today will be a great down payment on that debt,

and ultimately it will be a show of respect for those who have sacrificed so much for the American family.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE CHAIRMAN

The CHAIRMAN. Pursuant to clause 6 of rule XVIII, proceedings will now resume on those amendments on which further proceedings were postponed, in the following order:

Amendment by Mr. HAYES of North Carolina.

Amendment by Mr. BLUMENAUER of Oregon.

Amendment No. 17 by Mr. PRICE of Georgia.

Amendment by Mr. MORAN of Kansas.

Amendment No. 1 by Mr. GARRETT of New Jersey.

Amendment by Mrs. MUSGRAVE of Colorado.

The Chair will reduce to 2 minutes the time for any electronic vote after the first vote in this series.

AMENDMENT OFFERED BY MR. HAYES

The CHAIRMAN. The unfinished business is the demand for a recorded vote on the amendment offered by the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. HAYES) on which further proceedings were postponed and on which the noes prevailed by voice vote.

The Clerk will redesignate the amendment.

The Clerk redesignated the amendment.

The CHAIRMAN. A recorded vote has been requested. Those in support of the request for a recorded vote will rise and be counted.

POINT OF ORDER

Mr. DICKS. Mr. Chairman, point of order. I don't see a sufficient second, Mr. Chairman. I think we have been going automatically assuming. I see staff people on both sides. I do not see Members.

The CHAIRMAN. Does the gentleman wish to have a quorum call first?

Mr. DICKS. I just want to make sure that everybody sat down and we had the Members stand up.

The CHAIRMAN. A sufficient number having risen, a recorded vote is ordered. Members will record their votes by electronic device.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—ayes 110, noes 304, not voting 23, as follows:

[Roll No. 492]

AYES—110

Alexander	Cantor	Gerlach
Arcuri	Carney	Gingrey
Bachus	Chabot	Gohmert
Baker	Conaway	Goode
Barrett (SC)	Cubin	Goodlatte
Bartlett (MD)	Culberson	Granger
Barton (TX)	Davis, David	Hall (TX)
Bilbray	Davis, Tom	Hastert
Bishop (UT)	Deal (GA)	Hayes
Blackburn	Diaz-Balart, L.	Heller
Blunt	Diaz-Balart, M.	Henger
Boehner	Donnelly	Hunter
Bordallo	Drake	Jindal
Boyd (KS)	Duncan	Johnson (IL)
Brown (SC)	Etheridge	Johnson, Sam
Brown-Waite,	Fallin	Jones (NC)
Ginny	Forbes	Jordan
Burton (IN)	Fortuño	Keller
Buyer	Fossella	Kingston
Calvert	Fox	Kline (MN)
Cannon	Franks (AZ)	LaTourette

Lewis (KY)	Pearce	Shuler
Linder	Pence	Shuster
Lucas	Peterson (PA)	Smith (NE)
Manzullo	Pitts	Smith (TX)
Marchant	Platts	Souder
McCarthy (CA)	Pryce (OH)	Sullivan
McCotter	Putnam	Terry
McCrery	Radanovich	Tiberi
McIntyre	Rehberg	Turner
Mica	Rogers (AL)	Wamp
Miller (FL)	Rogers (KY)	Watt
Moran (KS)	Rogers (MI)	Weller
Musgrave	Rohrabacher	Whitfield
Myrick	Ros-Lehtinen	Wilson (SC)
Neugebauer	Sali	Wolf
Nunes	Shadegg	Young (AK)

NOES—304

Abercrombie	Ellison	Lipinski
Ackerman	Ellsworth	LoBiondo
Aderholt	Emanuel	Loeb sack
Akin	Emerson	Lowey
Allen	Engel	Lungren, Daniel
Altmire	English (PA)	E.
Andrews	Everett	Lynch
Baca	Farr	Mack
Bachmann	Fattah	Mahoney (FL)
Baird	Feeney	Maloney (NY)
Baldwin	Ferguson	Markey
Barrow	Filner	Marshall
Bean	Flake	Matheson
Becerra	Fortenberry	Matsui
Berkley	Frank (MA)	McCarthy (NY)
Berman	Frelinghuysen	McCaul (TX)
Berry	Gallely	McCollum (MN)
Biggart	Garrett (NJ)	McDermott
Bilirakis	Giffords	McGovern
Bishop (GA)	Gilchrest	McHugh
Bishop (NY)	Gillibrand	McKeon
Blumenauer	Gillmor	McMorris
Bono	Gonzalez	Rodgers
Boozman	Gordon	McNerney
Boren	Graves	McNulty
Boswell	Green, Al	Meek (FL)
Boucher	Green, Gene	Meeks (NY)
Boustany	Grijalva	Melancon
Boyd (FL)	Hall (NY)	Michaud
Brady (PA)	Hare	Miller (MI)
Braley (IA)	Hastings (FL)	Miller (NC)
Brown, Corrine	Hensarling	Miller, Gary
Burgess	Herseth Sandlin	Mitchell
Butterfield	Hill	Mollohan
Camp (MI)	Hinchey	Moore (KS)
Campbell (CA)	Hinojosa	Moore (WI)
Capito	Hirono	Moran (VA)
Capps	Hobson	Murphy (CT)
Capuano	Hodes	Murphy, Patrick
Cardoza	Hoekstra	Murphy, Tim
Carnahan	Holden	Murtha
Carson	Holt	Nadler
Carter	Honda	Napolitano
Castle	Hooley	Neal (MA)
Castor	Hoyer	Norton
Chandler	Hulshof	Oberstar
Christensen	Inglis (SC)	Obey
Clarke	Inslee	Olver
Clay	Israel	Ortiz
Cleaver	Issa	Pallone
Clyburn	Jackson (IL)	Pascarell
Cohen	Jackson-Lee	Pastor
Cole (OK)	(TX)	Payne
Conyers	Jefferson	Perlmutter
Cooper	Johnson (GA)	Peterson (MN)
Costa	Johnson, E. B.	Petri
Costello	Kagen	Poe
Courtney	Kanjorski	Pomeroy
Cramer	Kaptur	Porter
Crenshaw	Kennedy	Price (GA)
Crowley	Kildee	Price (NC)
Cuellar	Kilpatrick	Rahall
Cummings	Kind	Ramstad
Davis (AL)	King (IA)	Rangel
Davis (CA)	King (NY)	Regula
Davis (IL)	Kirk	Reichert
Davis (KY)	Klein (FL)	Renzi
Davis, Lincoln	Knollenberg	Reyes
DeFazio	Kucinich	Reynolds
DeGette	Kuhl (NY)	Rodriguez
Delahunt	Lamborn	Roskam
DeLauro	Lampson	Ross
Dent	Langevin	Rothman
Dicks	Lantos	Roybal-Allard
Dingell	Larsen (WA)	Royce
Doggett	Larson (CT)	Ruppersberger
Doolittle	Latham	Rush
Doyle	Lee	Ryan (OH)
Dreier	Levin	Ryan (WI)
Edwards	Lewis (CA)	Salazar
Ehlers	Lewis (GA)	

Sánchez, Linda T.
 Sanchez, Loretta
 Sarbanes
 Saxton
 Schakowsky
 Schiff
 Schmidt
 Schwartz
 Scott (GA)
 Scott (VA)
 Sensenbrenner
 Serrano
 Sestak
 Shays
 Shea-Porter
 Sherman
 Shimkus
 Simpson
 Sires
 Skelton
 Slaughter
 Smith (NJ)

Smith (WA)
 Snyder
 Solis
 Space
 Spratt
 Stark
 Stearns
 Sutton
 Tanner
 Tauscher
 Taylor
 Thompson (CA)
 Thompson (MS)
 Thornberry
 Tiahrt
 Tierney
 Towns
 Udall (CO)
 Udall (NM)
 Upton
 Van Hollen
 Velázquez
 Visclosky

Walberg
 Walden (OR)
 Walsh (NY)
 Walz (MN)
 Wasserman
 Schultz
 Waters
 Watson
 Waxman
 Weiner
 Welch (VT)
 Weldon (FL)
 Wexler
 Wicker
 Wilson (NM)
 Wilson (OH)
 Woolsey
 Wu
 Wynn
 Yarmuth
 Velázquez
 Young (FL)

Pitts
 Roybal-Allard
 Sánchez, Linda T.
 Sanchez, Loretta
 Slaughter
 Smith (WA)

Snyder
 Stark
 Thompson (CA)
 Tierney
 Velázquez
 Walden (OR)
 Walsh (NY)

NOES—347

Ackerman
 Aderholt
 Akin
 Alexander
 Allen
 Altmire
 Andrews
 Arcuri
 Baca
 Bachmann
 Bachus
 Baker
 Barrett (SC)
 Bartlett (MD)
 Becerra
 Berkley
 Berry
 Biggert
 Bilirakis
 Bishop (GA)
 Bishop (NY)
 Bishop (UT)
 Blackburn
 Blunt
 Boehner
 Bono
 Boozman
 Bordallo
 Boren
 Boswell
 Boucher
 Boustany
 Boyd (FL)
 Boyda (KS)
 Brady (PA)
 Braley (IA)
 Brown (SC)
 Brown, Corrine
 Burgess
 Burton (IN)
 Butterfield
 Buyer
 Calvert
 Camp (MI)
 Cannon
 Cantor
 Capito
 Capuano
 Carnahan
 Hirono
 Hobson
 Hodes
 Hoekstra
 Holden
 Holt
 Hoyer
 Hulshof
 Hunter
 Inglis (SC)
 Israel
 Issa
 Jefferson
 Jindal
 Johnson (GA)
 Johnson, E. B.
 Johnson, Sam
 Jones (NC)
 Jones (OH)
 Jordan
 Kagen
 Kanjorski
 Kaptur
 Keller
 Kennedy
 Kildee
 Kilpatrick
 Kind
 King (IA)
 King (NY)
 Kirk
 Klein (FL)
 Kline (MN)
 Knollenberg
 Kucinich
 Kuhl (NY)
 Lamborn
 Lampson
 Langevin
 Larsen (WA)
 Larson (CT)
 Latham

Wasserman
 Schultz
 Waters
 Waxman
 Weiner
 Welch (VT)
 Wu
 LaTourette
 Lee
 Levin
 Lewis (CA)
 Lewis (KY)
 Linder
 Lipinski
 LoBiondo
 Loeback
 Lowey
 Lucas
 Lungren, Daniel E.
 Lynch
 Mack
 Mahoney (FL)
 Maloney (NY)
 Marchant
 Markey
 Marshall
 Matheson
 McCarthy (CA)
 McCarthy (NY)
 McCaul (TX)
 McCollum (MN)
 McCotter
 McCreery
 McHugh
 McIntyre
 McKeon
 McMorris
 Rodgers
 McRerney
 McNulty
 Meek (FL)
 Meeks (NY)
 Melancon
 Mica
 Michaud
 Miller (FL)
 Miller (MI)
 Miller (NC)
 Miller, Gary
 Mollohan
 Moore (KS)
 Moran (KS)
 Moran (VA)
 Murphy (CT)
 Murphy, Patrick
 Murphy, Tim
 Murtha
 Musgrave
 Myrick
 Nadler
 Neal (MA)
 Neugebauer
 Norton
 Nunes
 Oberstar
 Obey
 Oliver
 Ortiz
 Pallone
 Pastor
 Pearce
 Pence
 Perlmutter
 Peterson (MN)
 Peterson (PA)
 Petri
 Platts
 Poe
 Pomeroy
 Porter
 Price (GA)
 Price (NC)
 Pryce (OH)
 Putnam
 Radanovich
 Rahall
 Ramstad
 Rangel
 Regula
 Rehberg
 Reichert
 Renzi
 Reyes
 Reynolds
 Rodriguez
 Rogers (AL)

Rogers (KY)
 Rogers (MI)
 Rohrabacher
 Ros-Lehtinen
 Roskam
 Ross
 Rothman
 Royce
 Ruppersberger
 Rush
 Ryan (OH)
 Ryan (WI)
 Salazar
 Sali
 Sarbanes
 Saxton
 Schakowsky
 Schiff
 Schmidt
 Schwartz
 Scott (GA)
 Scott (VA)
 Sensenbrenner
 Serrano
 Sestak
 Shadegg
 Shays

Shea-Porter
 Sherman
 Shimkus
 Shuler
 Shuster
 Simpson
 Sires
 Skelton
 Smith (NE)
 Smith (NJ)
 Smith (TX)
 Solis
 Souder
 Space
 Spratt
 Stearns
 Sullivan
 Sutton
 Tanner
 Tauscher
 Taylor
 Terry
 Thompson (MS)
 Thornberry
 Tiahrt
 Tiberi
 Towns

Turner
 Udall (CO)
 Udall (NM)
 Upton
 Van Hollen
 Visclosky
 Walberg
 Walz (MN)
 Wamp
 Watson
 Watt
 Weldon (FL)
 Weller
 Wexler
 Whitfield
 Wicker
 Wilson (NM)
 Wilson (OH)
 Wilson (SC)
 Wolf
 Woolsey
 Wynn
 Yarmuth
 Young (AK)
 Young (FL)

NOT VOTING—23

Bonner
 Brady (TX)
 Buchanan
 Coble
 Davis, Jo Ann
 Eshoo
 Faleomavaega
 Gutierrez

Harman
 Hastings (WA)
 Higgins
 Jones (OH)
 LaHood
 Lofgren, Zoe
 McHenry
 Meehan

Miller, George
 Paul
 Pickering
 Sessions
 Stupak
 Tancredo
 Westmoreland

□ 1622

Messrs. HOBSON, RYAN of Wisconsin, ALTMIRE, ADERHOLT, AKIN, TIAHRT, BOOZMAN, Mrs. McMORRIS RODGERS, and Mrs. BACHMANN changed their vote from “aye” to “no.”

Messrs. FOSSELLA, WATT and ROHRABACHER, and Mrs. BOYDA of Kansas changed their vote from “no” to “aye.”

So the amendment was rejected.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

AMENDMENT OFFERED BY MR. BLUMENAUER

The CHAIRMAN. The unfinished business is the demand for a recorded vote on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Oregon (Mr. BLUMENAUER) on which further proceedings were postponed and on which the noes prevailed by voice vote.

The Clerk will redesignate the amendment.

The Clerk redesignated the amendment.

RECORDED VOTE

The CHAIRMAN. A recorded vote has been demanded.

A recorded vote was ordered.

The CHAIRMAN. This will be a 2-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—ayes 68, noes 347, not voting 22, as follows:

[Roll No. 493]

AYES—68

Abercrombie
 Baird
 Baldwin
 Barrow
 Barton (TX)
 Bean
 Berman
 Bilbray
 Blumenauer
 Brown-Waite,
 Ginny
 Campbell (CA)
 Capps
 Cardoza
 Clay
 Cleaver
 Costa

Crowley
 Davis (IL)
 DeFazio
 DeGette
 Delahunt
 Doggett
 Duncan
 Ellison
 Farr
 Feeney
 Foxx
 Gilchrest
 Gordon
 Herseht Sandlin
 Hinchey
 Honda
 Hooley

Inslee
 Jackson (IL)
 Jackson-Lee
 (TX)
 Johnson (IL)
 Kingston
 Lantos
 Lewis (GA)
 Manzullo
 Matsui
 McDermott
 McGovern
 Mitchell
 Moore (WI)
 Napolitano
 Pascrell
 Payne

Davis (AL)
 Davis (CA)
 Davis (KY)
 Davis, David
 Davis, Lincoln
 Davis, Tom
 Deal (GA)
 DeLauro
 Dent
 Diaz-Balart, L.
 Diaz-Balart, M.
 Dicks
 Dingell
 Donnelly
 Doolittle
 Doyle
 Drake
 Dreier

Jones (OH)
 Jordan
 Kagen
 Kanjorski
 Kaptur
 Keller
 Kennedy
 Kildee
 Kilpatrick
 Kind
 King (IA)
 King (NY)
 Kirk
 Klein (FL)
 Kline (MN)
 Knollenberg
 Kucinich
 Kuhl (NY)
 Lamborn
 Lampson
 Langevin
 Larsen (WA)
 Larson (CT)
 Latham

Obey
 Oliver
 Ortiz
 Pallone
 Pastor
 Pearce
 Pence
 Perlmutter
 Peterson (MN)
 Peterson (PA)
 Petri
 Platts
 Poe
 Pomeroy
 Porter
 Price (GA)
 Price (NC)
 Pryce (OH)
 Putnam
 Radanovich
 Rahall
 Ramstad
 Rangel
 Regula
 Rehberg
 Reichert
 Renzi
 Reyes
 Reynolds
 Rodriguez
 Rogers (AL)

Akin
 Alexander
 Altmire
 Bachmann
 Baker
 Barrett (SC)
 Barrow
 Bartlett (MD)
 Bilirakis
 Blackburn
 Blunt
 Bono
 Boozman
 Boren
 Boswell
 Boustany

Burgess
 Burton (IN)
 Calvert
 Camp (MI)
 Campbell (CA)
 Cannon
 Cantor
 Capito
 Chabot
 Cole (OK)
 Conaway
 Cubin
 Culberson
 Davis (KY)
 Davis, David
 Deal (GA)

Dent
 Diaz-Balart, L.
 Diaz-Balart, M.
 Dingell
 Doolittle
 Drake
 Duncan
 Ehlers
 Emerson
 Fallon
 Ferguson
 Flake
 Forbes
 Fortuño
 Fossella
 Foxx

NOT VOTING—22

Bonner
 Brady (TX)
 Buchanan
 Coble
 Davis, Jo Ann
 Eshoo
 Faleomavaega
 Gonzalez

Gutierrez
 Harman
 Hastings (WA)
 LaHood
 Lofgren, Zoe
 McHenry
 Meehan
 Miller, George

Paul
 Pickering
 Sessions
 Stupak
 Tancredo
 Westmoreland

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE CHAIRMAN

The CHAIRMAN (during the vote). Members are advised there are 30 seconds remaining in this vote.

□ 1627

Mr. BILIRAKIS changed his vote from “aye” to “no.”

So the amendment was rejected.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

AMENDMENT NO. 17 OFFERED BY MR. PRICE OF GEORGIA

The CHAIRMAN. The unfinished business is the demand for a recorded vote on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. PRICE) on which further proceedings were postponed and on which the noes prevailed by voice vote.

The Clerk will redesignate the amendment.

The Clerk redesignated the amendment.

RECORDED VOTE

The CHAIRMAN. A recorded vote has been demanded.

A recorded vote was ordered.

The CHAIRMAN. This will be a 2-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—ayes 154, noes 260, not voting 23, as follows:

[Roll No. 494]

AYES—154

Franks (AZ)
Garrett (NJ)
Gerlach
Gilchrest
Gillmor
Gingrey
Gohmert
Goode
Goodlatte
Graves
Hall (TX)
Hayes
Heller
Hensarling
Hoekstra
Hulshof
Hunter
Inglis (SC)
Jindal
Johnson, Sam
Jones (NC)
Jordan
Keller
King (IA)
King (NY)
Kingston
Kirk
Klein (FL)
Kline (MN)
Kuhl (NY)
Lamborn
Lampson
Latham
Lewis (KY)
LoBiondo
Lucas

NOES—260

Abercrombie
Ackerman
Aderholt
Allen
Andrews
Arcuri
Baca
Bachus
Baird
Baldwin
Barton (TX)
Bean
Becerra
Berkley
Berman
Berry
Biggert
Bilbray
Bishop (GA)
Bishop (NY)
Bishop (UT)
Blumenauer
Boehner
Bordallo
Boucher
Boyd (FL)
Boyd (KS)
Brady (PA)
Braley (IA)
Brown (SC)
Brown, Corrine
Brown-Waite,
Ginny
Butterfield
Buyer
Capps
Capuano
Cardoza
Carnahan
Carney
Carson
Carter
Castle
Castor
Chandler
Christensen
Clarke
Clay
Cleaver
Clyburn
Cohen
Conyers
Cooper
Costa
Costello
Courtney
Cramer
Crenshaw
Crowley
Cuellar
Cummings

Lungren, Daniel
E.
Mack
Marchant
Matheson
McCarthy (CA)
McCaul (TX)
McCotter
McCrery
McHugh
McIntyre
McKeon
McMorris
Rodgers
McNerney
McNulty
Mica
Miller (FL)
Miller (MI)
Miller, Gary
Murphy, Tim
Musgrave
Myrick
Neugebauer
Pence
Peterson (PA)
Petri
Pitts
Platts
Poe
Porter
Price (GA)
Pryce (OH)
Putnam
Radanovich
Rahall

Ramstad
Regula
Rehberg
Reichert
Renzi
Reynolds
Rogers (KY)
Rogers (MI)
Rohrabacher
Ros-Lehtinen
Ross
Royce
Ryan (WI)
Sali
Saxton
Schmidt
Sensenbrenner
Shadegg
Shuler
Shuster
Smith (NE)
Smith (NJ)
Smith (TX)
Souder
Stearns
Taylor
Tiberi
Upton
Walberg
Wamp
Waters
Weller
Whitfield
Wilson (SC)
Wolf
Young (AK)

Jackson-Lee
(TX)
Jefferson
Johnson (GA)
Johnson (IL)
Johnson, E. B.
Jones (OH)
Kagen
Kanjorski
Kaptur
Kennedy
Kildee
Kilpatrick
Kind
Knollenberg
Kucinich
Langevin
Lantos
Larsen (WA)
Larson (CT)
LaTourette
Lee
Levin
Lewis (CA)
Lewis (GA)
Linder
Lipinski
Loeb sack
Lowey
Lynch
Mahoney (FL)
Maloney (NY)
Manzullo
Markey
Marshall
Matsui
McCarthy (NY)
McCollum (MN)
McDermott
McGovern
Meek (FL)
Meeks (NY)
Michaud
Miller (NC)
Mitchell
Mollohan
Moore (KS)
Moore (WI)
Moran (KS)
Moran (VA)
Murphy (CT)
Murphy, Patrick
Murtha
Nadler
Napolitano
Neal (MA)
Norton
Nunes
Oberstar
Obey
Oliver

Ortiz
Pallone
Pascrell
Pastor
Payne
Pearce
Perlmutter
Peterson (MN)
Pomeroy
Price (NC)
Rangel
Reyes
Rodriguez
Rogers (AL)
Roskam
Rothman
Roybal-Allard
Ruppersberger
Rush
Ryan (OH)
Salazar
Sánchez, Linda
T.
Sanchez, Loretta
Sarbanes
Schakowsky
Schiff
Schwartz

Bonner
Brady (TX)
Buchanan
Coble
Davis, Jo Ann
Eshoo
Faleomavaega
Gutierrez

NOT VOTING—23

Harman
Hastings (WA)
LaHood
Lofgren, Zoe
McHenry
Meehan
Melancon
Miller, George

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE CHAIRMAN

The CHAIRMAN (during the vote).
Members have 30 seconds remaining on
this vote.

□ 1632

So the amendment was rejected.
The result of the vote was announced
as above recorded.

AMENDMENT OFFERED BY MR. MORAN OF
KANSAS

The CHAIRMAN. The unfinished
business is the demand for a recorded
vote on the amendment offered by the
gentleman from Kansas (Mr. MORAN)
on which further proceedings were
postponed and on which the noes pre-
vailed by voice vote.

The Clerk will redesignate the
amendment.

The Clerk redesignated the amend-
ment.

RECORDED VOTE

The CHAIRMAN. A recorded vote has
been demanded.

A recorded vote was ordered.

The CHAIRMAN. This will be a 2-
minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic de-
vice, and there were—ayes 264, noes 152,
not voting 21, as follows:

[Roll No. 495]

AYES—264

Aderholt
Akin
Alexander
Allen
Altmire
Arcuri
Bachmann
Baker
Barrett (SC)
Barrow
Bartlett (MD)
Barton (TX)
Bean
Berry
Biggert
Bilirakis
Bishop (UT)

Blackburn
Blumenauer
Blunt
Boehner
Bono
Boozman
Boren
Boswell
Boucher
Boustany
Boyda (KS)
Braley (IA)
Brown (SC)
Brown-Waite,
Ginny
Burgess
Burton (IN)

Scott (GA)
Scott (VA)
Serrano
Sestak
Shays
Shea-Porter
Sherman
Shimkus
Simpson
Sires
Skelton
Slaughter
Smith (WA)
Snyder
Solis
Space
Spratt
Stark
Sutton
Tanner
Tauscher
Terry
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)
Thornberry
Tiahrt
Tierney
Towns

Costa
Costello
Courtney
Cramer
Cubin
Cuellar
Culberson
Davis (AL)
Davis (KY)
Davis, David
Davis, Lincoln
Davis, Tom
Deal (GA)
DeFazio
Delahunt
Dent
Dicks
Donnelly
Doolittle
Drake
Dreier
Duncan
Ehlers
Ellsworth
Emerson
English (PA)
Etheridge
Everett
Fallin
Feeney
Ferguson
Filner
Flake
Forbes
Fortenberry
Fortuño
Fossella
Foxy
Franks (AZ)
Frelinghuysen
Gallegly
Garrett (NJ)
Gerlach
Giffords
Gilchrest
Gillibrand
Gillmor
Gingrey
Gohmert
Goode
Goodlatte
Gordon
Granger
Graves
Hall (NY)
Hall (TX)
Hare
Hastert
Hayes
Heller
Hensarling
Herger
Herseth Sandlin
Hobson
Hodes
Hoekstra
Holt
Hulshof
Hunter
Inglis (SC)
Issa
Jackson-Lee
(TX)

Jindal
Johnson (IL)
Johnson, Sam
Jones (NC)
Jordan
Kagen
Kulberson
Kaptur
Keller
Kildee
King (IA)
King (NY)
Kingston
Kirk
Klein (FL)
Kline (MN)
Kucinich
Kuhl (NY)
Lamborn
Lampson
Larsen (WA)
Latham
LaTourette
Lewis (KY)
Linder
LoBiondo
Loeb sack
Lucas
Lungren, Daniel
E.
Mack
Mahoney (FL)
Manzullo
Marchant
Marshall
Matheson
Matsui
McCarthy (CA)
McCaul (TX)
McCotter
McCrery
McGovern
McHugh
McIntyre
McKeon
McMorris
Rodgers
McNerney
McNulty
Meek (FL)
Mica
Michaud
Miller (FL)
Miller (MI)
Miller (NC)
Miller, Gary
Mitchell
Moore (KS)
Moran (KS)
Murphy (CT)
Murphy, Patrick
Murphy, Tim
Musgrave
Myrick
Neugebauer
Pearce
Pence
Perlmutter
Peterson (MN)
Peterson (PA)
Petri
Pitts
Platts
Poe

NOES—152

Abercrombie
Ackerman
Andrews
Baca
Bachus
Baird
Baldwin
Becerra
Berkley
Berman
Bilbray
Bishop (GA)
Bishop (NY)
Bordallo
Boyd (FL)
Brady (PA)
Brown, Corrine
Butterfield
Cantor
Capps
Capuano
Cardoza
Carnahan
Castor

Chandler
Clarke
Clay
Clyburn
Conyers
Crenshaw
Crowley
Cummings
Davis (CA)
Davis (IL)
DeGette
DeLauro
Diaz-Balart, L.
Diaz-Balart, M.
Dingell
Doggett
Doyle
Edwards
Ellison
Emanuel
Engel
Farr
Fattah
Frank (MA)

Pomeroy
Price (GA)
Pryce (OH)
Putnam
Rahall
Ramstad
Regula
Rehberg
Renzi
Reynolds
Rogers (AL)
Rogers (KY)
Rogers (MI)
Rohrabacher
Ros-Lehtinen
Roskam
Ross
Royce
Ruppersberger
Ryan (WI)
Salazar
Sali
Saxton
Schmidt
Scott (GA)
Scott (VA)
Sensenbrenner
Shadegg
Shays
Shea-Porter
Shimkus
Shuler
Shuster
Simpson
Skelton
Smith (NE)
Smith (NJ)
Smith (TX)
Smith (WA)
Solis
Souder
Space
Spratt
Stearns
Sullivan
Terry
Thompson (CA)
Thornberry
Tiahrt
Tiberi
Tierney
Turner
Udall (CO)
Upton
Walberg
Walden (OR)
Walsh (NY)
Walz (MN)
Wamp
Welch (VT)
Weldon (FL)
Weller
Wexler
Whitfield
Wilson (NM)
Wilson (OH)
Wilson (SC)
Wolf
Wynn
Young (AK)
Young (FL)

Gonzalez
Green, Al
Green, Gene
Grijalva
Hastings (FL)
Higgins
Hill
Hinchey
Hinojosa
Hirono
Holden
Honda
Hooley
Hoyer
Inslee
Israel
Jackson (IL)
Jefferson
Johnson (GA)
Johnson, E. B.
Jones (OH)
Kanjorski
Kennedy
Kilpatrick

Kind Oberstar Sherman
Knollenberg Obey Sires
Langevin Oliver Slaughter
Lantos Ortiz Snyder
Larson (CT) Pallone Stark
Lee Pascrell Sutton
Levin Pastor Tanner
Lewis (CA) Payne Tauscher
Lewis (GA) Porter
Lipinski Price (NC) Taylor
Lowey Radanovich Thompson (MS)
Lynch Rangel Towns
Maloney (NY) Reichert Udall (NM)
Markkey Reyes Van Hollen
McCarthy (NY) Rodriguez Velázquez
McCollum (MN) Rothman Visclosky
McDermott Roybal-Allard Wasserman
Meeks (NY) Rush Schultz
Melancon Ryan (OH) Waters
Mollohan Sánchez, Linda Watson
Moore (WI) T. Watt
Moran (VA) Sanchez, Loretta Waxman
Murtha Sarbanes Weiner
Nadler Schakowsky Wicker
Napolitano Schiff Woolsey
Neal (MA) Schwartz Wu
Norton Serrano Yarmuth
Nunes Sestak

NOT VOTING—21

Bonner Gutierrez Miller, George
Brady (TX) Harman Paul
Buchanan Hastings (WA) Pickering
Coble LaHood Sessions
Davis, Jo Ann Lofgren, Zoe Stupak
Eshoo McHenry Tancredo
Faleomavaega Meehan Westmoreland

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE CHAIRMAN

The CHAIRMAN (during the vote).
Members have 30 seconds on this vote.

□ 1636

Ms. GIFFORDS changed her vote
from “no” to “aye.”

So the amendment was agreed to.

The result of the vote was announced
as above recorded.

AMENDMENT NO. 1 OFFERED BY MR. GARRETT OF
NEW JERSEY

The CHAIRMAN. The unfinished
business is the demand for a recorded
vote on the amendment offered by the
gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. GAR-
RETT) on which further proceedings
were postponed and on which the noes
prevailed by voice vote.

The Clerk will redesignate the
amendment.

The Clerk redesignated the amend-
ment.

RECORDED VOTE

The CHAIRMAN. A recorded vote has
been demanded.

A recorded vote was ordered.

The CHAIRMAN. This will be a 2-
minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic de-
vice, and there were—ayes 206, noes 211,
not voting 20, as follows:

[Roll No. 496]

AYES—206

Aderholt Boehner Capito
Akin Bono Carney
Alexander Boozman Carson
Altmire Boren Carter
Andrews Boswell Castle
Arcuri Boustany Chabot
Bachmann Brown (SC) Cole (OK)
Baker Brown-Waite, Conaway
Barrett (SC) Ginny Cooper
Barrow Burgess Costello
Bartlett (MD) Burton (IN) Cubin
Barton (TX) Buyer Culberson
Bilbray Calvert Cummings
Bilirakis Camp (MI) Davis (KY)
Bishop (UT) Campbell (CA) Davis, David
Blackburn Cannon Davis, Lincoln
Blunt Cantor Deal (GA)

DeFazio Klein (FL) Pryce (OH)
Dent Kline (MN) Putnam
Diaz-Balart, L. Kucinich Rahall
Diaz-Balart, M. Kuhl (NY) Ramstad
Doolittle Lamborn Rangel
Drake Lampson Regula
Ehlers Latham Rehberg
Emerson LaTourette Reichert
English (PA) Lewis (KY) Renzi
Fallin Linder Reynolds
Feeney Lipinski Rogers (KY)
Ferguson LoBiondo Rogers (MI)
Forbes Lucas Rohrabacher
Fortenberry Lungren, Daniel
Fortuño E. Roskam
Fossella Mack Ros-Lehtinen
Foxy Mahoney (FL) Rothman
Franks (AZ) Manzullo Royce
Frelinghuysen Mchant Ruppertsberger
Gallegly Marshall Ryan (WI)
Garrett (NJ) Matheson Sali
Gerlach McCaul (TX) Saxton
Giffords McCotter Schmitt
Gillibrand McCrery Sestak
Gillmor McHugh Shadegg
Gingrey McIntyre Shays
Gohmert McKeon Shimkus
Goode Shuler Shuster
Goodlatte Rodgers Simpson
Granger McNulty Smith (NE)
Graves Melancon Smith (NJ)
Hall (NY) Mica Smith (TX)
Hall (TX) Miller (FL) Souder
Hayes Miller (MI) Space
Hensarling Miller, Gary Sullivan
Herger Mitchell Tanner
Hill Moran (KS) Terry
Hobson Murphy, Tim Thompson (MS)
Hoekstra Musgrave Thornberry
Holt Myrick Tiberi
Hooley Nadler Turner
Hulshof Neugebauer Nunes
Hunter Pallone Walberg
Inglis (SC) Pascrell Wamp
Issa Pearce Welch (VT)
Jindal Johnson, Sam Pence Weller
Jordan Peterson (PA) Wexler
Keller Petri Whitfield
King (IA) Pitts Wilson (NM)
King (NY) Platts Wilson (SC)
Kingston Poe Wolf
Kirk Price (GA) Yarmuth

NOES—211

Abercrombie Davis (CA) Hoyer
Ackerman Inslee Israel
Allen Davis, Tom Jackson (IL)
Baca DeGette Jackson-Lee
Bachus Delahunt (TX)
Baird DeLauro Jefferson
Baldwin Dicks Johnson (GA)
Bean Dingell Johnson (IL)
Becerra Doggett Johnson, E. B.
Berkley Donnelly Jones (NC)
Berman Doyle Jones (OH)
Berry Dreier Kagen
Biggert Duncan Kanjorski
Bishop (GA) Edwards Kaptur
Bishop (NY) Ellison Kennedy
Blumenauer Ellsworth Kildee
Bordallo Emanuel Kilpatrick
Boucher Engel Kind
Boyd (FL) Etheridge Knollenberg
Boyda (KS) Everett Langevin
Brady (PA) Farr Langevin
Braley (IA) Fattah Lantos
Brown, Corrine Filner Larsen (WA)
Butterfield Flake Larson (CT)
Capps Frank (MA) Lee
Capuano Gilchrest Levin
Cardoza Gonzalez Lewis (CA)
Carnahan Gordon Lewis (GA)
Castor Green, Al Loeb sack
Chandler Green, Gene Lowey
Christensen Grijalva Lynch
Clarke Hare Maloney (NY)
Clay Harman Markkey
Cleaver Hastert Matsui
Clyburn Hastings (FL) McCarthy (CA)
Cohen Heller McCarthy (NY)
Conyers Herseht Sandlin McCollum (MN)
Costa Higgins McDermott
Courtney Hinchey McGovern
Cramer Hinojosa McNeerney
Crenshaw Hirono Meek (FL)
Crowley Hodes Meeks (NY)
Cuellar Holden Michaud
Davis (AL) Honda Miller (NC)

Mollohan Ryan (OH) Tiahrt
Moore (KS) Salazar Tierney
Moore (WI) Sánchez, Linda Towns
Moran (VA) T. Udall (CO)
Murphy (CT) Sanchez, Loretta Udall (NM)
Murphy, Patrick Sarbanes Van Hollen
Murtha Schakowsky Velázquez
Napolitano Schiff Visclosky
Neal (MA) Schwartz Walden (OR)
Norton Scott (GA) Walsh (NY)
Oberstar Scott (VA) Walz (MN)
Obey Sensenbrenner Wasserman
Oliver Serrano Schultz
Ortiz Shea-Porter Waters
Pastor Sherman Watson
Payne Sires Watt
Perlmutter Skelton Waxman
Peterson (MN) Slaughter Weiner
Pomeroy Smith (WA) Weldon (FL)
Porter Snyder Wicker
Price (NC) Solis Wilson (OH)
Radanovich Spratt Woolsey
Reyes Stark Wu
Rodriguez Stearns Wynn
Rogers (AL) Sutton Tauscher
Ross Taylor Young (AK)
Roybal-Allard Thompson (CA) Young (FL)
Rush

NOT VOTING—20

Bonner Gutierrez Paul
Brady (TX) Hastings (WA) Pickering
Buchanan LaHood Sessions
Coble Lofgren, Zoe Stupak
Davis, Jo Ann McHenry Tancredo
Eshoo Meehan Westmoreland
Faleomavaega Miller, George

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE CHAIRMAN

The CHAIRMAN (during the vote).
There are 30 seconds remaining.

□ 1641

So the amendment was rejected.

The result of the vote was announced
as above recorded.

AMENDMENT OFFERED BY MRS. MUSGRAVE

The CHAIRMAN. The unfinished
business is the demand for a recorded
vote on the amendment offered by the
gentlewoman from Colorado (Mrs.
MUSGRAVE) on which further pro-
ceedings were postponed and on which
the noes prevailed by voice vote.

The Clerk will redesignate the
amendment.

The Clerk redesignated the amend-
ment.

RECORDED VOTE

The CHAIRMAN. A recorded vote has
been demanded.

A recorded vote was ordered.

The CHAIRMAN. This will be a 2-
minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic de-
vice, and there were—ayes 383, noes 34,
not voting 20, as follows:

[Roll No. 497]

AYES—383

Abercrombie Bilirakis Brown-Waite,
Ackerman Bishop (GA) Ginny
Aderholt Bishop (NY) Burgess
Akin Bishop (UT) Burton (IN)
Alexander Blackburn Butterfield
Allen Blunt Buyer
Altmire Boehner Calvert
Andrews Bono Camp (MI)
Arcuri Boozman Campbell (CA)
Baca Bordallo Cannon
Bachmann Boren Cantor
Baird Boswell Capito
Baker Boucher Capps
Baldwin Boustany Cardoza
Bartlett (MD) Boyd (FL) Carnahan
Bean Boyda (KS) Carney
Becerra Brady (PA) Carson
Berkley Braley (IA) Carter
Berman Brown (SC) Castle
Berry Brown, Corrine Castor
Bilbray Brown, Corrine Chabot

Chandler
Christensen
Clarke
Clay
Cleaver
Clyburn
Cohen
Cole (OK)
Conaway
Conyers
Cooper
Costa
Costello
Courtney
Cramer
Crowley
Cubin
Cuellar
Culberson
Cummings
Davis (AL)
Davis (CA)
Davis (IL)
Davis (KY)
Davis, David
Davis, Lincoln
Davis, Tom
Deal (GA)
DeFazio
DeGette
Delahunt
DeLauro
Dent
Diaz-Balart, L.
Diaz-Balart, M.
Dingell
Doggett
Donnelly
Doolittle
Doyle
Drake
Dreier
Duncan
Ehlers
Ellison
Ellsworth
Emerson
Engel
English (PA)
Etheridge
Everett
Fallin
Farr
Fattah
Feeney
Ferguson
Filner
Flake
Forbes
Fortenberry
Fortuño
Fossella
Foxy
Frank (MA)
Franks (AZ)
Gallegly
Garrett (NJ)
Gerlach
Giffords
Gilchrest
Gillibrand
Gillmor
Gingrey
Gohmert
Gonzalez
Goode
Goodlatte
Gordon
Granger
Graves
Green, Al
Green, Gene
Grijalva
Hall (NY)
Hall (TX)
Hare
Harman
Hastings (FL)
Hayes
Heller
Hensarling
Herger
Herseth Sandlin
Hill
Hinchey
Hinojosa
Hirono
Hobson
Hodes

Hoekstra
Holden
Holt
Honda
Hooley
Hoyer
Hulshof
Hunter
Inglis (SC)
Inslee
Israel
Issa
Jackson (IL)
Jackson-Lee
(TX)
Jefferson
Jindal
Johnson (GA)
Johnson, E. B.
Johnson, Sam
Jones (NC)
Jones (OH)
Jordan
Kagen
Kanjorski
Kaptur
Keller
Kennedy
Kildee
Kilpatrick
Kind
King (IA)
King (NY)
Kingston
Kirk
Klein (FL)
Kline (MN)
Knollenberg
Kucinich
Kuhl (NY)
Lampson
Langevin
Lantos
Larsen (WA)
Larson (CT)
Latham
LaTourette
Lee
Levin
Lewis (GA)
Lewis (KY)
Linder
Lipinski
LoBiondo
Loeb sack
Lowey
Lucas
Mack
Mahoney (FL)
Maloney (NY)
Manzullo
Marchant
Markey
Matheson
Matsui
McCarthy (CA)
McCarthy (NY)
McCauley (TX)
McCollum (MN)
McCotter
McCrery
McDermott
McGovern
McHugh
McIntyre
McKeon
McMorris
Rodgers
McNerney
McNulty
Meek (FL)
Meeks (NY)
Melancon
Mica
Michaud
Miller (FL)
Miller (MI)
Miller (NC)
Miller, Gary
Mitchell
Mollohan
Moore (KS)
Moore (WI)
Moran (KS)
Moran (VA)
Murphy (CT)
Murphy, Patrick
Murphy, Tim
Murtha

Musgrave
Myrick
Nadler
Napolitano
Neal (MA)
Neugebauer
Norton
Nunes
Oberstar
Obey
Olver
Ortiz
Pallone
Pastor
Payne
Pearce
Pence
Perlmutter
Peterson (MN)
Peterson (PA)
Petri
Pitts
Platts
Poe
Pomeroy
Porter
Price (GA)
Price (NC)
Pryce (OH)
Radanovich
Rahall
Ramstad
Rangel
Regula
Rehberg
Reichert
Renzi
Reyes
Reynolds
Rodriguez
Rogers (AL)
Rogers (KY)
Rogers (MI)
Rohrabacher
Ros-Lehtinen
Roskam
Ross
Rothman
Roybal-Allard
Royce
Ruppersberger
Rush
Ryan (OH)
Ryan (WI)
Salazar
Sali
Sarbanes
Saxton
Schakowsky
Schiff
Schmidt
Schwartz
Scott (GA)
Scott (VA)
Sensenbrenner
Serrano
Shadegg
Shays
Shea-Porter
Sherman
Shuler
Shuster
Simpson
Sires
Slaughter
Smith (NE)
Smith (NJ)
Smith (TX)
Snyder
Solis
Souder
Space
Spratt
Stark
Stearns
Sullivan
Sutton
Tanner
Tauscher
Terry
Thompson (CA)
Thornberry
Tiahrt
Tierney
Towns
Turner
Udall (CO)
Udall (NM)
Upton

Van Hollen
Velázquez
Walberg
Walden (OR)
Walsh (NY)
Walz (MN)
Wamp
Wasserman
Schultz
Waters

Watson
Watt
Waxman
Weiner
Welch (VT)
Weldon (FL)
Weller
Wexler
Whitfield
Wilson (NM)

Wilson (OH)
Wilson (SC)
Wolf
Woolsey
Wu
Wynn
Yarmuth
Young (AK)

NOES—34

Bachus
Barrett (SC)
Barrow
Barton (TX)
Biggert
Blumenauer
Capuano
Crenshaw
Dicks
Edwards
Emanuel
Frelinghuysen
Hastert

Higgins
Johnson (IL)
Lamborn
Lewis (CA)
Lungren, Daniel
E.
Lynch
Marshall
Pascarell
Putnam
Sánchez, Linda
T.
Sanchez, Loretta

Sestak
Shimkus
Skelton
Smith (WA)
Taylor
Thompson (MS)
Tiberi
Visclosky
Wicker
Young (FL)

NOT VOTING—20

Bonner
Brady (TX)
Buchanan
Coble
Davis, Jo Ann
Eshoo
Faleomavaega

Gutierrez
Hastings (WA)
LaHood
Lofgren, Zoe
McHenry
Meehan
Miller, George

Paul
Pickering
Sessions
Stupak
Tancred
Westmoreland

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE CHAIRMAN

The CHAIRMAN (during the vote).
There are 30 seconds remaining.

□ 1645

Mr. MILLER of North Carolina changed his vote from “no” to “aye.”
So the amendment was agreed to.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. The Clerk will read.

The Clerk read as follows:

This Act may be cited as the “Military Construction and Veterans Affairs Appropriations Act, 2008”.

Mr. EDWARDS. Mr. Chairman, I move that the Committee do now rise and report the bill back to the House with sundry amendments, with the recommendation that the amendments be agreed to and that the bill, as amended, do pass.

The motion was agreed to.

Accordingly, the Committee rose; and the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. WEINER) having assumed the chair, Mr. LYNCH, Chairman of the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union, reported that that Committee, having had under consideration the bill (H.R. 2642) making appropriations for military construction, the Department of Veterans Affairs, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2008, and for other purposes, pursuant to the previous order of the House by unanimous consent, he reported the bill back to the House with sundry amendments adopted in the Committee of the Whole, with the recommendation that the amendments be agreed to and that the bill, as amended, do pass.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the rule, the previous question is ordered.

Is a separate vote demanded on any amendment reported from the Committee of the Whole? If not, the Chair will put them en gros.

The amendments were agreed to.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the engrossment and third reading of the bill.

The bill was ordered to be engrossed and read a third time, and was read the third time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the passage of the bill.

Under clause 10 of rule XX, the yeas and nays are ordered.

This will be a 5-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 409, nays 2, not voting 21, as follows:

[Roll No. 498]

YEAS—409

Abercrombie
Ackerman
Aderholt
Akin
Alexander
Allen
Altmire
Andrews
Arcuri
Baca
Bachmann
Bachus
Baird
Baker
Baldwin
Barrett (SC)
Barrow
Bartlett (MD)
Barton (TX)
Bean
Becerra
Berkley
Berman
Berry
Biggert
Bilbray
Bilirakis
Bishop (GA)
Bishop (NY)
Bishop (UT)
Blackburn
Blumenauer
Blunt
Boehner
Bono
Boozman
Boren
Boswell
Boucher
Boustany
Boyd (FL)
Boyd (KS)
Brady (PA)
Braley (IA)
Brown (SC)
Brown, Corrine
Brown-Waite,
Ginny
Burgess
Burton (IN)
Butterfield
Buyer
Calvert
Camp (MI)
Cannon
Cantor
Capito
Capps
Capuano
Cardoza
Carnahan
Carney
Carson
Carter
Castle
Castor
Chabot
Chandler
Clarke
Clay
Cleaver
Clyburn
Cohen
Cole (OK)
Conaway
Conyers
Cooper

Costa
Costello
Courtney
Cramer
Crenshaw
Crowley
Cubin
Cuellar
Culberson
Cummings
Davis (AL)
Davis (CA)
Davis (IL)
Davis (KY)
Davis, David
Davis, Lincoln
Davis, Tom
Deal (GA)
DeFazio
DeGette
Delahunt
DeLauro
Dent
Diaz-Balart, M.
Dicks
Dingell
Doggett
Donnelly
Doolittle
Doyle
Drake
Dreier
Duncan
Edwards
Ehlers
Ellison
Ellsworth
Emanuel
Emerson
Engel
English (PA)
Etheridge
Everett
Fallin
Farr
Fattah
Ferguson
Filner
Flake
Kingston
Kirk
Klein (FL)
Kline (MN)
Knollenberg
Kucinich
Kuhl (NY)
Lamborn
Lampson
Langevin
Lantos
Larsen (WA)
Larson (CT)
Latham
LaTourette
Lee
Levin
Lewis (CA)
Lewis (GA)
Lewis (KY)
Linder
Lipinski
LoBiondo
Loeb sack
Lowey
Lucas
Lungren, Daniel
E.
Lynch

Harman
Hastert
Hastings (FL)
Hayes
Heller
Hensarling
Herger
Herseth Sandlin
Higgins
Hill
Hinchey
Hinojosa
Hirono
Hobson
Hodes
Hoekstra
Holden
Holt
Honda
Hooley
Hoyer
Hulshof
Hunter
Inglis (SC)
Inslee
Israel
Issa
Jackson (IL)
Jackson-Lee
(TX)
Jefferson
Jindal
Johnson (GA)
Johnson (IL)
Johnson, E. B.
Johnson, Sam
Jones (NC)
Jones (OH)
Jordan
Kagen
Kanjorski
Kaptur
Keller
Kennedy
Kildee
Kind
King (IA)
King (NY)
Kingston
Kirk
Klein (FL)
Kline (MN)
Knollenberg
Kucinich
Kuhl (NY)
Lamborn
Lampson
Langevin
Lantos
Larsen (WA)
Larson (CT)
Latham
LaTourette
Lee
Levin
Lewis (CA)
Lewis (GA)
Lewis (KY)
Linder
Lipinski
LoBiondo
Loeb sack
Lowey
Lucas
Lungren, Daniel
E.
Lynch

Mack	Peterson (PA)	Slaughter
Mahoney (FL)	Petri	Smith (NE)
Maloney (NY)	Pitts	Smith (NJ)
Manzullo	Platts	Smith (TX)
Marchant	Poe	Smith (WA)
Markey	Pomeroy	Snyder
Marshall	Porter	Solis
Matheson	Price (GA)	Souder
Matsui	Price (NC)	Space
McCarthy (CA)	Price (OH)	Spratt
McCarthy (NY)	Putnam	Stark
McCauley (TX)	Radanovich	Stearns
McCollum (MN)	Rahall	Sullivan
McCotter	Ramstad	Sutton
McCrery	Rangel	Tanner
McDermott	Regula	Tauscher
McGovern	Rehberg	Taylor
McHugh	Reichert	Terry
McIntyre	Renzi	Thompson (CA)
McKeon	Reyes	Thompson (MS)
McMorris	Reynolds	Thornberry
Rodgers	Rodriguez	Tiahrt
McNerney	Rogers (AL)	Tiberi
McNulty	Rogers (KY)	Tierney
Meek (FL)	Rogers (MI)	Towns
Meeks (NY)	Rohrabacher	Turner
Melancon	Ros-Lehtinen	Udall (CO)
Mica	Roskam	Udall (NM)
Michaud	Ross	Upton
Miller (FL)	Rothman	Van Hollen
Miller (MI)	Roybal-Allard	Velázquez
Miller (NC)	Royce	Visclosky
Miller, Gary	Ruppersberger	Walberg
Mitchell	Rush	Walden (OR)
Mollohan	Ryan (OH)	Walsh (NY)
Moore (KS)	Ryan (WI)	Walz (MN)
Moore (WI)	Salazar	Walsh (NY)
Moran (KS)	Sali	Wamp
Moran (VA)	Sánchez, Linda	Wasserman
Murphy (CT)	T.	Schultz
Murphy, Patrick	Sanchez, Loretta	Waters
Murphy, Tim	Sanbanes	Watson
Murtha	Saxton	Watt
Musgrave	Schakowsky	Waxman
Myrick	Schiff	Weiner
Nadler	Schmidt	Welch (VT)
Napolitano	Schwartz	Weldon (FL)
Neal (MA)	Scott (GA)	Weller
Neugebauer	Scott (VA)	Wexler
Nunes	Sensenbrenner	Whitfield
Oberstar	Serrano	Wicker
Obey	Sestak	Wilson (NM)
Oliver	Shadegg	Wilson (OH)
Ortiz	Shays	Wilson (SC)
Pallone	Shea-Porter	Wolf
Pascarell	Sherman	Woolsey
Pastor	Shimkus	Wu
Payne	Shuler	Wynn
Pearce	Shuster	Yarmuth
Pence	Simpson	Young (AK)
Perlmutter	Sires	Young (FL)
Peterson (MN)	Skelton	

NAYS—2

Campbell (CA) Feeney

NOT VOTING—21

Bonner	Gutierrez	Miller, George
Brady (TX)	Hastings (WA)	Paul
Buchanan	Kilpatrick	Pickering
Coble	LaHood	Sessions
Davis, Jo Ann	Lofgren, Zoe	Stupak
Diaz-Balart, L.	McHenry	Tancred
Eshoo	Meehan	Westmoreland

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (during the vote). Members are advised 2 minutes remain in this vote.

□ 1653

So the bill was passed.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

Stated for:

Mr. COBLE. Mr. Speaker, I was detained and not present on the House Floor when the final vote for passage of H.R. 2642—Military Construction and Veterans Affairs Appropriations was taken. Had I been present I would have voted “yea.”

LEGISLATIVE PROGRAM

(Mr. BLUNT asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. BLUNT. Mr. Speaker, I take this time for the purpose of inquiring about next week's schedule. I yield to my good friend, the majority leader, for information about the schedule next week. In light of the agreement we reached this week, any sense you could give us at all about the remaining 10 appropriations bills would be helpful.

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, I hope my recitation of the schedule for next week is a little more accurate than my recitation of the schedule last week, which had a little bit of a problem getting done.

In any event, my distinguished friend, on Monday the House will meet at 12:30 p.m. for morning hour business and then at 2 p.m. for legislative business. We will consider several bills under suspension of the rules. A complete list of those bills will be announced later today.

On Tuesday, the House will meet at 9 a.m. for morning hour business and 10 a.m. for legislative business. On Wednesday and Thursday, the House will meet at 10 a.m., and on Friday the House will meet at 9 a.m. We will consider the following fiscal year 2008 appropriations bills: Energy and Water Development; State, Foreign Operations; and the Legislative Branch bill.

In addition to that, in the week following, I am waiting for it to be written up for me, but I know Financial Services we hope to have up on the last week of the session; the Commerce, Justice, Science bill and the Interior bill in the last week; and then in July, the week we get back, which is the second full week of July, we expect to have the Labor-Health bill, the Agriculture bill and the Transportation-HUD bill.

In addition, after that, we will have the Defense appropriations bill as we have always planned to have that, approximately mid-July.

I want to tell my friend that obviously the three bills that are scheduled for the second week in July may slip to the third week in July because of the difficulty of getting together all of the projects that will be added to the bills as a result of Members' initiatives and the committee's action. But whether it is the second week in July or the third week in July, they will be in mid-July sometime.

Mr. BLUNT. I appreciate that. I would ask my friend, on the Energy and Water bill that we expect to do next week, it is my understanding we will come back at a later time and finish that bill, once time has been adequate to allow projects that would have otherwise gone in at some time even later than House passage.

Mr. HOYER. If the gentleman will yield further, yes, the Energy and Water bill, again because of the numbers of projects in Members' districts that are very important to them and, I

think, to the country, but will take time to vet properly to make sure that they are justified and to check with the agency, those projects are going to be added after we consider the Energy and Water bill, which is scheduled for next week.

But before the Energy and Water bill is sent to the Senate, we will have those add-ons added to another appropriation bill that will come to the floor and will be, therefore, subject to Members' actions on each and every one of the legislatively added provisions. When that bill passes, those provisions will then be added to the Energy and Water bill and then, and only then, sent to the Senate.

Mr. BLUNT. I thank my friend for that.

I would also ask, this was covered extensively last night, but just to verify this one more time as we look at the schedule for these appropriations bills and for next week, on Monday of next week, we intend under unanimous consent to reinstate the rule that we had at the end of the last Congress that would provide for a point of order on any projects that are put in a conference report that we hadn't had an opportunity to see prior to that. That would happen on Monday?

Mr. HOYER. If the gentleman will yield further, let me be precise.

Mr. BLUNT. I will be glad to yield, and I am not trying to be unusually prescriptive in describing that.

Mr. HOYER. Let me be precise so there won't be any misunderstanding. I am not sure, but I think your rule dealt with more than appropriations conference reports. I may not be correct on that.

But in any event, the rule that will be offered Monday night, hopefully by unanimous consent, will be a rule that will say that a point of order will lie to a conference report from the appropriations conference which has added a project that was not listed in either the House consideration or the Senate consideration, and that point of order would have 10 minutes of debate on either side, 10 minutes for those in opposition to allowing the conference committee report to be considered, and 10 minutes for the proponents of the conference committee report being considered, effectively adding a third to the hour.

□ 1700

So it would be an hour and 20 minutes of debate rather than just an hour.

Obviously if the point of order is sustained, then the conference committee with the add-on or add-ons would be referred back to the conference committee.

Mr. BLUNT. That is the way I understand it, my friend, and our agreement at this point is for these appropriations bills, although in our rule last year we also extended that to authorizing bills. As you know, we don't want to continue that discussion, but the agreement we made this week, the majority

leader is fully in compliance with the agreement we made so we can move forward with these appropriations bills with the understanding that while now we will have a significant opportunity to look at the remainder of the specific Member projects or earmarks in the bill, we also would have an opportunity to have a debatable point of order on the conference report if those appear.

I would also like to ask about energy. I know in previous discussions on the floor at the end of previous weeks, I believe we discussed the likelihood that there would be an energy bill on the floor by July 4. I know in either this week's schedule or future scheduling that the Transportation and Infrastructure Committee, the Ways and Means Committee, and the Energy and Commerce Committee have all delayed some markups that they had intended, and I am wondering if the leader has a sense of what that means in terms of an energy bill on the floor, and also that bill on the floor in light of the appropriations works we just discussed.

Mr. HOYER. If the gentleman would yield, obviously the gentleman is correct. There has been a change in the July schedule in part because of the moving of three of the appropriations bills to July. So they will not be considered in June. It was always the intent, however, that there would be an announcement prior to July 4 of component parts of an energy policy, not necessarily one bill but an energy policy prior to July 4. We always contemplated energy bills being on the floor in July. As far as I know, that is still the plan.

Mr. BLUNT. I thank you for that response.

In addition to that, every indication I have up to this point is that those energy bills would go through the regular order of the committee. Is that what the leader and the majority still anticipates?

Mr. HOYER. That is correct.

Mr. BLUNT. On another topic where we had some discussions that indicated there would be an effort to have a vote before the August work period on the topic of trade. And of the agreements out there, generally the discussion was that there would be a significant effort made to have the Peru agreement on the floor in July. I know these take a significant amount of time because of the various things that have to be done in this trade promotion authority process. I am wondering on trade if my friend has a sense where those items might be.

Mr. HOYER. I thank the gentleman for yielding, and not with precision in the sense of weeks or months or days, I mean. Obviously as the gentleman knows, Chairman RANGEL and Chairman LEVIN of the subcommittee is working very closely with Ambassador Schwab and Secretary Paulson and the administration on these issues.

They have reached an understanding and that is moving forward, I believe, but I could not tell the gentleman at

this time what will be scheduled or when it will be scheduled. As the gentleman well knows, there is discussion with reference to Peru and Panama and actions that may be taken in Peru or Panama, and that is being discussed, as a matter of fact, I think today between Ambassador Schwab and Mr. RANGEL and others.

Clearly I think things are moving forward on that, but I cannot give the gentleman any time frames.

Mr. BLUNT. I thank my good friend for that. We are interested in that. We will continue to talk about that both on the floor and off. It would certainly be one of my goals. By this time next week if we have any information on that, we can begin to get a sense of meeting those deadlines. Under this process, as the leader well knows, a number of things have to be done. There is very little flexibility in the time frame once you start the clock on a particular agreement, and the clock has to start right here in the House of Representatives. I look forward to that. I thank my friend for the information.

DISPENSING WITH CALENDAR WEDNESDAY BUSINESS ON WEDNESDAY NEXT

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the business in order under the Calendar Wednesday rule be dispensed with on Wednesday next.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. COURTNEY). Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Maryland?

There was no objection.

ADJOURNMENT TO MONDAY, JUNE 18, 2007

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent when the House adjourns today, it adjourn to meet at 12:30 p.m. on Monday next for morning-hour debate.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Maryland?

There was no objection.

APPOINTMENT OF MEMBERS TO HOUSE COMMISSION ON CON- GRESSIONAL MAILING STAND- ARDS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to 2 U.S.C. 501(b), and the order of the House of January 4, 2007, the Chair announces the Speaker's appointment of the following Members of the House to the House Commission on Congressional Mailing Standards:

Mr. CAPUANO, Massachusetts, Chairman

Mr. SHERMAN, California

Mr. DAVIS, Alabama

Mr. EHLERS, Michigan

Mr. PRICE, Georgia

Mr. MCCARTHY, California

APPOINTMENT OF MEMBER TO ABRAHAM LINCOLN BICENTEN- NIAL COMMISSION

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to section 5(a) of the Abraham Lincoln Bicentennial Commission Act (36 U.S.C. 101 note), and the order of the House of January 4, 2007, the Chair announces the Speaker's appointment of the following Member of the House to the Abraham Lincoln Lincoln Bicentennial Commission:

Mr. JACKSON, Illinois

COMMUNICATION FROM HON. JOHN A. BOEHNER, REPUBLICAN LEAD- ER

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Hon. JOHN A. BOEHNER, Republican Leader:

CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, June 14, 2007.

Hon. NANCY PELOSI,

Speaker, Washington, DC.

DEAR SPEAKER PELOSI: Pursuant to section 5(a) of the Abraham Lincoln Bicentennial Commission Act (36 U.S.C. 101 note), I am pleased to re-appoint the Honorable Ray LaHood of Illinois to the Abraham Lincoln Bicentennial Commission.

Mr. LaHood has expressed interest in serving in this capacity and I am pleased to fulfill his request.

Sincerely,

JOHN A. BOEHNER,
Republican Leader.

CONTINUATION OF NATIONAL EMERGENCY REGARDING BELARUS—MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES (H. DOC. NO. 110-39)

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following message from the President of the United States; which was read and, together with the accompanying papers, without objection, referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs and ordered to be printed:

To the Congress of the United States:

Section 202(d) of the National Emergencies Act (50 U.S.C. 1622(d)) provides for the automatic termination of a national emergency unless, prior to the anniversary date of its declaration, the President publishes in the *Federal Register* and transmits to the Congress a notice stating that the emergency is to continue in effect beyond the anniversary date. In accordance with this provision, I have sent to the *Federal Register* for publication the enclosed notice stating that the national emergency and related measures blocking the property of certain persons undermining democratic processes or institutions in Belarus are to continue in effect beyond June 16, 2007.

The actions and policies of certain members of the Government of Belarus and other persons pose a continuing unusual and extraordinary threat to the national security and foreign policy of the United States. These actions

include undermining democratic processes or institutions; committing human rights abuses related to political repression, including detentions and disappearances; and engaging in public corruption, including by diverting or misusing Belarusian public assets or by misusing public authority. For these reasons, I have determined that it is necessary to continue the national emergency and related measures blocking the property of certain persons with respect to Belarus.

GEORGE W. BUSH.
THE WHITE HOUSE, June 14, 2007.

CELEBRATING FATHER'S DAY

(Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, it gives me great pleasure to be able to congratulate and to wish a happy Father's Day to all of the fathers across America. In particular, I wish a very special and very respectful Father's Day to all of those serving on the front lines of Iraq and Afghanistan, all of our veterans, all of them loved dearly for their service, and as well the service and love they give their families.

I want to pay special tribute to those fathers who are no longer with us, and might I mention Ezra C. Jackson, my father, my dad, who will always be someone in my heart as someone willing to stand by his children and be able to uplift his children.

Again this is a commemorative holiday where we simply say "thank you." Fathers are the guiding force, fathers bring strength, both in religion, both in character, and in support of their families. We are a nation of families, moms and dads and grandmothers and grandfathers. And for all of those who have stood in as fathers, we wish you a very happy Father's Day as well.

This is a special day, and as I close, let me simply say, we have a weekend of Father's Day. And in Texas, we commemorate Juneteenth. It is a special weekend of celebrations, remembering the struggle of those who were not yet freed as slaves, and remembering the service and the love that our fathers give in America.

We are united as families, and fathers remain very dear in our hearts. Happy Father's Day.

SPECIAL ORDERS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 18, 2007, and under a previous order of the House, the following Members will be recognized for 5 minutes each.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Oregon (Mr. DEFAZIO) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. DEFAZIO addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

LISTENING TO THE TROOPS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from California (Ms. WOOLSEY) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Ms. WOOLSEY. Mr. Speaker, today marks over 1,500 days of the occupation of Iraq. Since that time, over 3,500 brave men and women have given their lives and at least 2,600 have been injured. We have spent nearly half a trillion dollars, but this occupation is about more than just numbers. It is about the lives, both American and Iraqi, that will be changed forever.

So many brave men and women heeded the call of the Commander in Chief to rid Iraq of Saddam Hussein and his weapons of mass destruction. One could say many of these troops were misled with false or at the very least faulty intelligence. They deserve so much more for their sacrifice and their service.

Last month, Santa Rosa Press Democrat, a newspaper in my district, carried a story titled, "GI's Voice Disillusionment With the War." It outlined the frustrations of our troops, some on their first tour, others who have served again and again.

One account exemplifies the frustration, and I will read it. "In 2003, 2004, 100 percent of the soldiers wanted to be here to fight this war," said Sergeant First Class David Moore, a self-described "conservative Texas Republican" and platoon sergeant who strongly advises an American withdrawal.

"Now," he says, "95 percent of my platoon agrees with me."

Mr. Speaker, that is directly from the front. This is not something that has been run through the administration's spin machine. This is the unvarnished truth from the troops in the trenches.

One more account comes from Staff Sergeant David Safstrom. According to the Santa Rosa Press Democrat, Staff Sergeant Safstrom does not regret his previous tours in Iraq, not even a difficult second stint when two comrades were killed while trying to capture insurgents. He said, "In Mosul, in 2003, it felt like we were making the city a better place. There was no sectarian violence. Saddam was gone. We were tracking down the bad guys. It felt awesome."

But now, Mr. Speaker, on this third deployment in Iraq, he is no longer a believer in the mission. The pivotal moment came, he says, this February when soldiers killed a man setting a roadside bomb. When they searched the bomber's body, they found identification showing him to be a sergeant in the Iraqi Army.

"I thought," he said, "What are we doing here? Why are we still here?" said Safstrom, a member of Delta Com-

pany of the 1st battalion, 325th Airborne Infantry, 82nd Airborne Division. He had changed his mind.

Mr. Speaker, let me be clear, I and every one of my colleagues support the troops. We honor their bravery and we commit to ensuring that they receive all of the promised benefits as a result of their service to our Nation.

I believe that the best way we can stand up for our troops is to bring them home. It is past time for a fully funded and safe redeployment. We will not back out of our commitment to the Iraqi people. We will work with them to increase their security forces and to help in reconstruction.

But we must face the facts. The situation on the ground may be worse than it ever has been before. Military leaders are conceding that the so-called surge is not working, and it may never.

The administration has even said that we needed to look at the situation in Iraq like that of Korea, and we have been there half a century. That is simply not an option.

Let's do the right thing. Let's do the sensible thing. Let's bring our troops home. We owe it to them and we owe it to our Nation.

□ 1715

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. BURTON) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. BURTON of Indiana addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. SOUDER) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. SOUDER addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. FRANKS) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. FRANKS of Arizona addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. GINGREY) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. GINGREY addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Florida (Ms. GINNY BROWN-WAITE) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Ms. GINNY BROWN-WAITE of Florida addressed the House. Her remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

HONORING VIRGINIA GRAEME BAKER

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Florida (Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the important legacy of Virginia Graeme Baker, a 7-year-old child who was the unfortunate victim of entrapment by a residential spa drain.

On June 15, 2002, Graeme attended a pool party with her entire family, her mother Nancy and her four sisters. Everyone was having a great time swimming, when all of the sudden, one of Nancy's daughters came running to tell her that Graeme was in the spa. Nancy ran to the edge of the spa, and all she saw was dark and bubbling water.

Her daughter, frantically crying and pointing into the tub, insisted that Graeme was there. Nancy jumped into the spa and saw Graeme with her eyes pinched closed, her hair and limbs moving with the current of water from all the jets on the side. Graeme was entrapped by the powerful suction of the drain spa and could not free herself.

Nancy pulled and pulled with all her strength to help her daughter. It eventually took the strength of two adults to free Graeme from the spa. It was sadly too late; Graeme passed away in the hospital later that afternoon.

I can only imagine the immeasurable grief that her mother and Graeme's entire family went through. Today, Mr. Speaker, is the fifth anniversary of Graeme's death, and I want to take this moment to acknowledge the enormous loss suffered by the Baker family.

Following Graeme's death, Nancy and her father-in-law, former Secretary of State James Baker, became and still are tireless advocates for children and children's safety. When I met Nancy, I was immediately taken by her tragic story of the loss of her daughter.

I was most affected by Nancy's incredible desire to ensure that what happened to Graeme did not happen to any other child. Nancy has channeled all of her energies into raising the issue of pool and spa drain entrapment, a hidden hazard responsible for hundreds of injuries and numerous deaths, to a national audience. Her passion is an inspiration to me, and I am proud to sponsor the Pool and Spa Safety Act, H.R. 1721, in memory of Graeme Baker.

I want to acknowledge and thank my colleague Congressman FRANK WOLF of Virginia, the lead Republican sponsor of this bill, Chairman BOBBY RUSH and Chairman JOHN DINGELL for their support of this badly needed legislation.

The progress made on the Pool and Spa Safety Act would not be possible without the hard work of the entire Baker family. I hope my colleagues, Mr. Speaker, join me in honoring Virginia Graeme Baker, a remarkable little girl, and her mother Nancy whose dedication and tenacity is truly making the world a safer place for all of our children.

PEAK OIL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 18, 2007, the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. BARTLETT) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the minority leader.

Mr. BARTLETT of Maryland. Mr. Speaker, I will submit for the RECORD two short articles, one from Business Week and the other from the Washington Post, at the end of my remarks.

It's been roughly 2 years now since I have been coming to the well to talk about energy and, more specifically, about peak oil. When I first came here to do that, we had quite a discussion in our office what we would call it because it was a phenomenon that very few had any interest in or any knowledge of.

And I had heard two descriptive terms. One was peak oil, which is the one we finally decided to use, and the other was the great rollover. When we talk about it this evening, you will understand what the great rollover is. It's the rollover from adequate production. You come to the peak and then you roll over the peak and start down the other side. We wisely, I think, chose to call it peak oil because that's apparently what everybody else is calling it.

And I wanted to start this evening with two articles that a couple of years ago when I started coming here I would never have dreamed that I would be able to come to this well and one day find two articles like this in two of our major publications. One of them is from the Washington Post and the other is from Business Week, and I'd like to begin this evening by reading from these articles. It's the kind of thing that I have been saying for 2 years, and it's very satisfying to be able to read it now from somebody else's pen.

This is the one from the Washington Post called, "A Wind-Powered Town, an Energy Bill and a Lot of Hot Air." You might suspect by that title that the author is Dana Milbank.

"There's a certain irony in Washington's failure to devise a modern energy policy. This is, after all," he says, "the one place on earth that is powered almost entirely by wind."

"Lawmakers are growing further apart on energy legislation, as Democrats demand alternative fuels and Republicans insist on more drilling. But for both sides, the ability to talk about energy is both plentiful and renewable."

"While the Senate held its fourth day of debate on an energy bill, three congressional committees held hearings on the subject yesterday, and the House and Senate Renewable Energy Caucuses held an all-day 'expo and forum' in the Cannon Caucus Room. Democratic senators held two news conferences on the subject, Republican senators held a third, and bipartisan groups of lawmakers contributed a fourth and fifth." And this is all in one day.

"Not to be left out, the National Association for Business Economics, the

U.S.-China Economic and Security Review Commission," before whom I testified this afternoon, "the Electric Power Supply Association, the Nuclear Energy Institute, and a coalition of environmentalists all hosted energy events of their own."

"Talk about a large carbon footprint. The amount of CO₂ emitted from the mouths of all these lawmakers, lobbyists and activists was enough to cause part of Greenland to melt into the sea."

"This bill's going to have a tough time," said Senator Larry Craig . . . That's a safe guess, given that the Senate plans for about eight days of debate on the bill, and Republicans such as Craig are hinting at a filibuster that could derail the whole thing."

"The Senate energy legislation is fairly modest. It stays away from radical policies, such as a carbon tax or a cap on carbon emissions. Its toughest provision, a plan to increase fuel-efficiency standards to 35 miles per gallon by 2020, is under siege by a bipartisan group of lawmakers from car-manufacturing States."

"The Senate energy bill started out fairly weak, and we don't see the debate getting any better," complained Eric Pica, who represented Friends of the Earth at a protest by environmentalists on the Senate grounds yesterday.

"Minutes later, Republican lawmakers assembled in the Senate television gallery to voice similarly bitter objections to the bill, for completely opposite reasons. 'It doesn't do anything to lower the price of gasoline,' argued Senator MITCH MCCONNELL, the Senate Republican leader."

"Did that message get out? Not without some difficulty. The Republican event was squeezed in between a Senate hearing on 'the impact of rising gas prices,' and a pair of House committee sessions on biofuels and 'climate change mitigation.' Within minutes of the GOP's departure from the television studio, Democrats walked in with a rebuttal."

"We do not believe in the President's theory, the Republican's theory: Drill, drill, drill, more of the same," Harry Reid, the Senate majority leader, taunted. "It reminds me of Iraq."

Over in the Cannon Caucus Room, where the Renewable Energy Caucus was caucusing among displays of pea pellets, switch grass and filament-free lightbulbs, exhibitors were on hand to talk about landfill gas and to hand out lollipops and bumper stickers saying I love wind energy.

"It was a festive gathering, but Representative ROSCOE BARTLETT, Republican from Maryland, a champion of renewable energy, delivered a somber message about progress in the capital. 'We've been crawling at a snail's pace,' he said. 'We've been doing little more than nibbling at the edges.'"

Now, for the article from Business Week, and we will kind of be reading this together because I have seen it for the first time just a couple of moments before I came to the well.

It's by Eugene Linden, and it's called, "From Peak Oil to Dark Age?" And this is what he says.

"Oil output has stalled, and it's not clear the capacity exists to raise production."

"With global oil production virtually stalled in recent years, controversial predictions that the world is fast approaching maximum petroleum output are looking a little bit less controversial."

I would note as an aside that a couple of years ago when I began to talk about this, I ran the risk of being relegated to the lunatic fringe. But in another life I was a scientist. I'd been concerned about this problem for 40 years, and I thought these statistics in reality were on my side.

"At first blush, those concerned about global warming should be delighted. After all, what better way to prod the move toward carbon-free, climate-friendly alternative energy."

"But climate change activists have nothing to cheer about. The U.S. is completely unprepared for peak oil, as it's called, and the wrenching adjustments it would entail could easily accelerate global warming as Nations turn to coal. Moreover, regardless of the implications for climate change, peak oil represents a mortal threat to the U.S. economy."

This isn't some wild, left-wing publication. This is Business Week who is saying this.

"Peak oil refers to the point at which world oil production plateaus before beginning to decline as depletion of the world's remaining reserves ever-increased drilling. Some experts argue that we're already there, and that we won't exceed by much the daily production high of 84.5 million barrels first reached in 2005. If so, global production will bump along near these levels for years before beginning an inexorable decline."

"What would that mean? Alternatives are still a decade away from meeting incremental demand for oil. With nothing to fill the gap, global economic growth would slow, stop, and then reverse; international tensions would sore as Nations seek access to diminishing supplies, enriching autocratic rulers in unstable oil States; and, unless other sources of energy could be ramped up with extreme haste, the world could plunge into a new Dark Age."

□ 1730

Even as faltering economies burned less oil, carbon loading of the atmosphere might accelerate as countries turn to vastly dirtier coal.

When I read this, I was reminded of the observation of one of the giants in the area, one of the experts, Kenneth Deffeyes from Princeton University, who said that the least bad outcome from peak oil would be a deep worldwide recession that might make the 1930s look like good times.

Sound familiar to what I just read? He says, if you don't like that, try the

Four Horsemen of the Apocalypse or famine, pestilence and death.

"Given such unpleasant possibilities, you would think peak oil would be a national obsession. But policymakers can hide behind the possibility that vast troves will be available from unconventional sources, or that secretive oil-exporting nations really have the huge reserves they claim. Yet even if those who say that the peak arrived are wrong, enough disturbing omens—for example, declining production in most of the world's great oil fields, and no new super fields to take up the slack—exist for the issue to merit an intense international focus."

When I read about the decline in our big oil fields, I thought of another article about 3 weeks or so ago in the Post about the second largest oil field in the world, the largest one in Mexico, the Cantrell oil field, whose discovery was quite interesting. A Mexican fisherman by the name of Cantrell kept having oil-foiled nets. When oil foiled his net, he knew where to go, because there was only one oil company in Mexico, Pemex, so he went to Pemex, look what you did to my net, give me a new one.

So they did, but he came in so many times they wondered, do we really spill that much oil? So they asked, where are you finding all that oil? He said, come, I will show you. He showed them oil bubbling up out of the ocean. They drilled there, and for a number of years that has been the second largest field in the world, producing 2 million barrels of oil per day, the Cantrell oil field. It has declined down to 20 percent, down to 1.6 million barrels a day in the last 2 years.

The reality is that it will be here much sooner for the U.S. in the form of peak oil imports. Since we import nearly two-thirds of the oil we consume, global oil for export should be our bigger concern.

In that article about 3 weeks ago in the Post, they noted that in 8 years they estimate that Mexico will be an oil importer. I think it was in that same article that noted in 10 years Iran may very well be an oil importer. Maybe it has something to do with the reason they are interested in nuclear energy.

Fast-growing domestic consumption of oil-exporting nations and increasing appetites by big exporters such as China portend tighter supplies available to the U.S., China now the number two importer in the world, with an economy growing at 11.4 percent, the last quarter for which I saw data. With our economy barely 2 percent, how soon might they be the biggest oil importer in the world?

Unless world oil production rises rapidly, but output has stalled, call it de facto peak oil or peak oil light, it means that the United States is entering an age when it will have to scramble to maintain existing import levels.

We will know soon enough whether the capacity to raise production really

exists. If not, basic math and the clock will tell the story. All alternatives, geothermal, solar, wind and so forth, produce only 3 percent of the energy supplied by oil.

If oil demand rises by 2 percent, while upward remains flat, a generation of alternative energy would have to expand 60 percent a year. That's more than twice the rate of wind power, the fastest-growing alternative energy.

All this incremental energy would somehow have to be delivered to transportation, which consumes most of the oil produced each year just to stay even with the growth in demand.

Nuclear and hydropower together produce 10 times the power of wind, geothermal and solar. But even if nations ignore environmental concerns, it takes years to build nuclear plants and even identify suitable, undammed rivers.

There are many things we in the United States can do and should have been doing other than the present policy of crossing our fingers. If an oil tax makes sense from a climate change perspective, it seems doubly worthy of it if it extends supplies. Boosting efficiency and scaling up alternatives must also be a priority. Recognizing that nations will turn to cheap coal, recently 80 percent of growth in coal use has come from China. More work is needed to defang this fuel which produces more carbon dioxide per ton than any other energy source.

Even if the peakists are wrong, and I will tell you each night I pray I am wrong, because if I am not wrong we are in for a pretty rough ride. Even if the peakists are wrong, we would still be better off taking these actions. If they are right, major actions right now may be the only way to avert a new dark age in an overheated world.

Again, I would like to emphasize, these are not articles from some left-wing environment magazine. These are articles from Business Week and the Washington Post.

Now I would like to turn to the first slide here on the easel, and this is a kind of an interesting slide, I think, that points to our problem. Here is a fellow looking at the gas pump and the \$3 gasoline, he is in his huge SUV there. Demand, and looking at the supply in the pump, just why is gas so expensive?

Mr. Motorist, it's expensive because of supply and demand.

One of my colleagues asked me, what can I tell my constituents who are asking me what can we do to reduce the price of gas? I told him, tell them to drive less. It will certainly reduce their cost if they are driving less, and also, if collectively we drive less, then there will be more supply and less demand, and the price of gasoline and oil will drop. They are both exquisitely sensitive to supply and demand.

The next chart is one of my favorites, and this was referred to by Hyman Rickover who gave a speech 50 years

ago, the 14th day of last month, to a group of physicians in Saint Paul, Minnesota, and I would encourage a reread of this article several times over, very, very perceptive article.

He talked about 8,000 years of recorded history, and on our chart here we have only about 400 years, the last 400 years of that 8,000 years of recorded history. If we extended it this way, the others, 7.6 thousand years, it would be the same thing, very little energy being used. You could hardly see that energy was used here. It looks like zero because of this scale, it's hard to differentiate the tiny amount of energy that prehistoric man used that's compared to the energy we use today.

Then we began the industrial revolution. We see it here with brown, which was wood, and that industrial revolution was sputtering when we found coal. Then we found gas and oil. It took off. That's the red curve there. Look how sharply that is rising.

Now, this is a compressed abscissa because we have 400 years, and we will see that curve again, and it will be very flat, but that's because we will have stretched out abscissa and made the curve look flatter.

But notice what happened up about the 1970s up there. Had that curve kept going, we will be through the ceiling right now. Notice what happened in the 1970s where we had a drop in use, a world wide recession as a result of the oil price shocks, and much increased deficiency. The efficiency of your refrigerator today is probably three times of the 1970s, and your air conditioner the same thing.

Hyman Rickover pointed out, when he gave his speech 50 years ago, that we were 100 years into the age of oil, and he wondered how long the age of oil would be. We have, today, a much better understanding of that, because in the last 50 years, we have seen the peaking of oil in our country. It occurred in 1970. The peaking of oil, and I think 35 of the 48 top oil producing countries in the world, he noted that the age of oil would occupy but a relatively brief moment in the stretch of human history, and 8,000 years of recorded history, the age of oil will occupy about 300 years.

We are not running out of oil. There is a lot of oil left. But it's going to be very difficult to get. That's going to make it very expensive, and each year we will get less and less. That happened in the United States.

Now, we work very hard to prove that M. King Hubbert was a liar. He was mentioned in one of the articles. M. King Hubbert predicted in 1956 that we would peak in 1970.

Now, we knew by 1980 that he was right, because we were already 10 years down the other side of Hubbert's speech. Our response to that was exactly the wrong response. Our response was let's see if we can't find more. So we gave tax incentives to see if we couldn't get the oil people to drill more, and it worked. They drilled more, but they didn't find more.

Now, in spite of having drilled more oil wells in our country than all the rest of the world put together, we're producing about half the oil today that we produced in 1970s, in spite of the fact that we found enormous amounts of oil in Alaska and in the Gulf of Mexico.

The next slide is a very interesting slide. This is the world according to oil.

This imagines that the size of the country would be relevant, consistent with the amount of oil that they have. So, if you are thinking about oil, who are the biggies in oil?

Obviously, Saudi Arabia dominates the landscape. They have about 22 percent, not quite a fourth of all of the oil reserves in the world.

Then there is Iran and Iraq and Kuwait. Kuwait, it looks like a little province. That's what Saddam Hussein thought, a little province that ought to belong to Iraq, so he went to take it. Tiny little country. Look at the amount of oil that it has. Here we are in the United States, pretty anemic, 2 percent of the known reserves of oil in the world.

But I want to point to something even more alarming than that. If I lived in China, look at it over there, 1.3 billion people. Today they are getting about 70 percent of all of their energy from dirty coal. They are near suffocating under it. Even worse in China, with 1 billion people and growing, soon to surpass China's 1.3 billion is India, which has only half the energy of China, and China has less oil than we do. So the world is poised if we are approaching peak oil. The world is poised for some very serious times.

The next chart is one that inspired 30 of our leading Americans, and I had the privilege of testifying with one of them yesterday, Jim Woolsey, and McFarland and Boyden Gray and 27 others, several of them, very senior four-star admirals who wrote a letter the President saying Mr. President, the fact that we have only 2 percent of the world's reserves of oil and use 25 percent of the world's oil and import almost two-thirds of what we use is a totally unacceptable national security risk. We really have to do something about that.

The President mentioned this at one of his State of the Unions, and he noted that we get this oil from countries which, as he said, which don't even like us.

Two more facts on this chart. We represent, it says here, 5 percent. We are less than that. We are one person out of 22 in the world, less than 5 percent of the world's population. We use 25 percent of the world's oil and import almost two-thirds of what we use.

The other figure on here really is an interesting one. We have only 2 percent of the world's oil reserves, but we are producing 8 percent of the world's oil.

What that means, of course, is that we are pumping our oil four times faster than the rest of the world. It's not

hard to understand that when you realize we have drilled, as I said, more oil wells than all the rest of the world put together.

The next chart here, this isn't really a very good one, because you have to read the numbers and don't pay much attention to the symbols, because they make it look kind of even, but these are some data from Hyman Rickover's speech. He went through a development of civilization and, particularly, our industrial civilization, and the role that energy played, and if in fact that is going to be a bell curve kind of experience, as we go down the other side will we retrace in reverse the steps that he so well defined in the contribution of energy to the development of our civilization.

He noted that each person, I generally use about 75 watts, but that's, I guess, sitting here, and he had them sleeping, and he said that we are about 35 watts of electricity, or $\frac{1}{20}$ of a horsepower.

□ 1745

That's how much energy we represent, $\frac{1}{20}$ th of a horsepower. In modest activity, you're something like a 70-watt bulb. That's all the energy that you are producing.

The household appliances he said that were available to the housewife of 50 years ago, it would be more than that today, wouldn't it, he said that represented the work of 33 faithful household servants is the way he expressed it. This energy has been such a cheap servant.

We had some factories then. We don't have many now. We had some factories then, and he said that the energy available to assist that factory worker in his productivity was the equivalent of being supported by 244 men. The automobile, and they got roughly the same mileage then as now. The automobile, he said, when going down the road, represented the work output of 2,000 men, and the locomotive that pulled the cars, 100,000 men, and the jet plane, 700,000 men.

Each barrel of oil has an energy equivalent, and you can see it here from these numbers. Each barrel of oil has the energy equivalent of 12 men working all year. And you will pay \$125 roughly at the pump. So you can buy yourself the work equivalent of 12 men working all year with a barrel of oil.

When I first read that number, I said, that can't be. And then I thought about it, and I drive a Prius, and we've been averaging, for the past several thousand miles, it's 49 miles per gallon. And I asked myself, how long would it take me to pull my Prius 49 miles? That little gallon of gasoline, still cheaper at \$3, by the way, still cheaper than water in the grocery store, pulls my car 79 miles. How long would it take me to pull the car that far?

Another statistic that really helped me understand that that's probably right is that if a man works really hard in his yard all day, his wife could get

more work out of an electric motor for less than 25 cents' worth of electricity. Now, that may be humbling to recognize that we're worth less than 25 cents a day, but that's the reality of this incredibly dense, cheap, so far ubiquitously available fossil fuel energy. It's just been everywhere. We assume it's there just like we assume that water and air are there.

The next chart, and if we could have only one chart to speak to, so that we can understand where we are and where we've come from and where we're going, this would be the chart. This shows the discoveries of oil. And you can see them there. Way back in the 1930s we found them, a bunch in the 1940s, and, boy, did we start finding it in the 1950s and 1960s and 1970s.

And then starting from 1980, down, it just has been going down, down, down. And that's in spite of the fact that we're drilling more and more wells. We have computer modeling and three-D seismic technologies we didn't know back when we were finding most of this oil. We pretty much have mapped the Earth geologically. We know the kinds of the formations oil is found in.

It is unlikely, very unlikely we will find any more large reservoirs of oil. The solid black line here represents the rate at which we've been consuming oil. Well, actually the production and consumption has been the same. There are no big lakes of oil anywhere so we've been using all we've produced. So this is the consumption curve. It's also been the production curve because up till now we have consumed everything we produced, or we've produced everything we would like to consume.

But look what happened to this curve. This was an exponential curve. And up through the Carter years, the Carter years about here, up through the Carter years we used as much oil in each decade as we had used in all of previous history. That is a stunning statistic. That means that when you've used half the world's oil, there would remain only 10 years of oil at present use rates because we would have used as much oil as in all of previous history.

Well, things really change. If they hadn't changed, extrapolate this. It would be above this graph, well above this chart. So really good things happened as a result of the shocks we had at the Arab oil embargo. We're very much more efficient than we were.

And by the way, our citizens in California use maybe two-thirds the energy that we use here. Do you think they're less happy than we are? I have a lot of colleagues in California. They would really debate that if you suggested that.

Well, since about 1980, as these curves show, we have not found as much oil as we've been using. Today we're pumping what, 4 or 5 barrels for every barrel we find. So now we've been dipping into the past reserves. This chart says that peaking should be occurring, what, about now, or 2010, something like that.

Now, we can make the future look different within limits, depending on how aggressive we are with enhanced oil recovery, sending live steam down there, flooding it with the CO₂ for CO₂ sequestration, flooding it with seawater as the Saudis do. They pump 3 or 4 barrels of seawater for every barrel of oil that they pump.

They have suggested here in the lightly shaded areas to the right what future discoveries will be like. They certainly won't be that smooth curve. They'll be up and down. But I'll tell you, if you were smoothing a curve out you wouldn't have come that high, would you, if you just look at this chart. So they're being generous, I think, in how much oil we might find.

Well, unless you think we're going to find enormously new reservoirs of oil, and I know of no responsible experts who believe that, it's clear that you cannot pump what you have not found. And unless we find a great deal more, the area under our consumption curve cannot be larger than the area if you put a smooth curve around this, the area under the discovery curve.

And so these two articles I read were reflecting the reality that we're probably at peak oil and face a very challenging future.

The next chart shows one depiction of what's called Hubbert's peak. This is U.S. oil production. This is the whole country's production. He predicted only the lower 48, by the way. But you see we've reached a peak. In about 1970 we reached a peak, and now we're about half the oil production in spite of having more oil wells than all the rest of the world.

The next chart is really an interesting one, because this chart is used by one of the few groups that I think are in denial. This is the Cambridge Energy Research Associates. They are predicting that peak oil, if it occurs, is going to be an undulating plateau somewhere well out into the future, not to worry about it today. And they need to discredit M. King Hubbert, because M. King Hubbert predicted that the United States would peak in 1970 and we did peak in 1970. And in 1979, I think, or 1969, I forget which date, he predicted the United States would be peaking, I'm sorry, the world would be peaking about now.

Well, a very obvious question, if he was right about the United States, which is clearly a microcosm of the world, why shouldn't he be right about the world?

And knowing he was right about the United States by 1980, because we peaked in 1970, we've now lost 27 years when we should have been addressing this problem.

Well, they use these curves to try to convince you and me that you shouldn't have any confidence in M. King Hubbert; therefore, don't worry about the future. Hubbert peak for the lower 48 was the red going up this side and the yellow coming down over there.

Now, the actual lower 48 was the green, and they think that deviates a great deal from the yellow. Gee, I think they're pretty close. From my perspective, I think that they confirm the predictions of M. King Hubbert.

And then the red, now, the red is off a little bit. That's because he didn't include Canada and the Gulf of Mexico. And this little bump on the way down is the oil from Alaska, from Prudhoe Bay. I've been there, Prudhoe Bay. A 4-foot pipe right where 3 starts there at Prudhoe Bay. For years, less now, it's running down. For years a fourth of all our domestic production came through that pipeline.

The next chart is just one of many quotes from one of four studies, a fifth one, which is now out, but it's been embargoed so we can't really talk about it until they've released it. This is from the first report paid for by the Department of Energy, done by the big prestigious SAIC, Science International Applications Corporation, known as the Hirsch Report because Robert Hirsch was the principal investigator on it.

And I just want to mention the highlight here. He says the world has never faced a problem like this. There is nothing in history, which is what these articles were saying, right? There is nothing in history that is a precedent to this. There's nothing to guide us as to what will happen and where we should go.

The next chart is a schematic of the peak. Now, I said we were going to spread out the abscissa and flatten the peak. That's exactly the same peak that you saw before when we compressed the abscissa in a 400-year scale. This is the schematic. The yellow area is about 35 years. Two percent growth, by the way, doubles in 35 years; four times, bigger in 70 years; eight times bigger in 105 years.

No wonder Albert Einstein, in response to a question, Dr. Einstein, what will be the next big energy force in the universe after nuclear? And he said the most powerful force in the universe is the power of compound interest. Exponential growth. And we see it here.

So if this is, in fact, where we are, and it's now being more and more widely recognized that that's probably correct, this is what the future will look like. That dark green area represents the amount of oil that will be available. If our economies are going to continue as they are now, with just a modest 2 percent growth, this is a 2 percent growth curve, we're going to need that much more oil. We're going to need twice as much oil at the end of 35 years. That is a daunting challenge.

When you represent that, when you remember that we use 21 million barrels of oil a day in our country, a fourth of the world's production and the total amount we get from all of the usual alternatives is something like 3 percent of everything; and they're growing rapidly, but it's still only about 3 percent of all of our energy use.

The next chart, it's really an interesting chart and it points to two things that I'd like just for a moment to emphasize. Here we see that typical curve. You saw it before, the rise and then the stuttering in the '70s. We became more efficient or this would be off the top of the chart here. And I won't this evening go into how they got there, but using some very suspect data, our energy information agency is predicting that we will find as much more oil as all the reserves that we now know exist.

Even if that is true, from their own chart, that pushes the peak out from only now to 2016. That's 9 years from now. And the Hirsch report said, unless you started preparing 20 years before peak oil, you were going to have a pretty rough ride.

Now, if they're not going to find this enormous amount of additional oil, and I think the odds are very good they will not, then peaking is about now, and the curve starts down here.

Let me point to the other thing they note here; that is, if you have some really vigorous enhanced oil recovery, and you extend that peak production of oil, you might push it out to 2037. But then look what happens. You fall off a cliff. Obviously, the area between these two curves has to be the same as the area between these two curves down here. You know, you can't pump what's not there.

Now, you may get a little more. You will get a little more by enhanced oil recovery. But compared to the trillion barrels of oil that we've used so far, the trillion that we will use in the next 150 years as we run down the other side of Hubbert's peak, the additional oil we get is going to be fairly limited.

The next chart has a quote by one of the giants in this area, Laharrere, who says the USGS estimate implies a five-fold increase in discovery rate and reserve addition for which no evidence is presented. Such an improvement in performance is, in fact, utterly implausible, and I would agree, utterly implausible, given the great technological achievements of the industry over the past 20 years, the worldwide search and the deliberate efforts to find the largest remaining prospects.

Boy, we have plowed that ground and Laharrere is exactly right. Their predictions I think are implausible.

The next chart is one that I hope more and more of us look at and reflect on. This is an interesting one. I wish it was in living color. It's just kind of plain Jane. But on the abscissa here we have how much energy we use per person, and where would you expect to find us using more energy per person than any other person in the world. There we are, way up there. And the ordinate here is how happy we are with life, how content we are.

□ 1800

And we are okay. We are pretty content. But notice on this chart that there are, I think, 20 some nations, all

of those from here up, that use less oil than we, less energy than we, who are happier than we. Not just as happy as we, happier than we are.

Now, it is obvious at this end of the curve it is really hard to be happy when you don't have much energy. When you are burning cow dung and so forth for your heat, you are not really happy. But many nations with about a fourth of energy that we use are just about as happy as we are.

So this is very encouraging. What that means is that you don't have to use as much energy as we are using to be happy. We are the most creative, innovative society in the world. We can use far less energy and be, I think, happier because we will have the satisfaction of really making a contribution.

The next chart kind of points to some of the difficulties, and these two articles I read mention those. I use a really simple analogy to help us understand where we are. We are like the young couple whose grandparents have died and left them a big inheritance, and they now are lavishly spending that inheritance, and 85 percent of everything they live on comes from their grandparents and only 15 percent from what they earn, and the inheritance is going to run out a long time before they retire; so they have obviously got to do something. They got to make more or spend less or some combination of those two.

I use those figures because that is where we are in terms of the amount of fossil fuel energy we use, 85 percent. Some will say 86 percent. Coal, oil, and gas make up about 85 percent of all the energy we use. More than half of the rest comes from nuclear power.

By the way, we are the biggest nuclear power producer in the world. France produces 75 percent of their electricity. We produce 20 of ours. But since we are so much bigger than France in terms of total quantity of electricity, we produce more than France does at a much smaller percentage. Well, nuclear power could and maybe should increase, but it comes with problems, as you know. And, also, unless you go to some different technologies, there is not a forever supply of fissionable uranium in the world. That is a very finite supply. So you are going to be going to burning something else or using a breeder reactor, which has problems of enrichment and moving fuel around that is weapons grade and so forth. So this comes with some obvious drawbacks. But shivering in the dark has some obvious drawbacks too, and we need to trade those off as we are looking at maybe using more nuclear power.

Then we come to the true renewables. And I will tell you that we will transition, the world will transition, to sustainable renewables, either because geology demands it as we run down the other side of Hubbert's Peak, and for the last 150 years of this glorious age of oil, we will move to sustainable renew-

ables. If we do it on the terms of geology, it may be a really rough ride. If we do it on our terms, it will be a much less rough ride and it could really be fun because there is no exhilaration like the exhilaration of meeting and overcoming a challenge and, boy, this is a huge challenge. I can see this really turning Americans on. This is a far bigger challenge than we faced in World War II and that turned everybody on. I am 81 years old. I lived through that. Everybody had a victory garden. We had daylight savings time, I think, for the first time so you could work in your victory garden. There were no new cars for us. We made all sorts of sacrificing. We did it because we knew we needed to do it.

And before I forget as far as what we ought to be doing for the future, let me tell you that I think we can get there with our enormous creativity and innovation if we have proper leadership. We need a program that has the total commitment of World War II, that has the technology focus of putting a man on the moon and the urgency of the Manhattan Project. And I think Americans could be marshaled. I think we could make a tremendous contribution and really feel good about it. In that little chart that showed how satisfied we are with life, I think we would be even more satisfied with life, living just as well as we live now on a whole lot less energy and feeling good about the fact that we are able to live that well with less energy.

I want to spend a moment looking at the renewables that we will be turning to increasingly. This is a 2000 chart; so there are more now. But in 2000 solar was 1 percent of 7.07 percent. So it is five times bigger now, 0.35 percent. Big deal. And I am a big solar fan. I have on off-the-grid home and I get all of my electricity from solar and wind, but I recognize this is a tiny contributor now and has a long way to go.

Wood: That is waste products, and the timber industry and paper industry probably can't grow a whole lot without raping our forests.

Waste energy: We can do a whole lot more of that. But please note when you look at that waste pile that is going into the furnace, much of it came from oil. In an energy deficient world, that huge stream of waste will have really shrunk. There will be nowhere near as much.

Wind: The rapidest growing, at 30 percent per year that industry is growing. Still a tiny percentage. A huge frontier: conventional hydro. We don't have any more big rivers to dam in our country. We could get maybe as much more hydro from microhydro. Micro-turbines, that technology is really improving now.

Let's look at the next chart because that helps me talk about fuel from food. This is a chart on comparing the energy history with petroleum and with corn. And 75 percent of all the energy you get from corn comes from the fossil fuels you use to grow the corn

and haul it to the mill and ferment the grain and so forth.

The article in the Washington Post of a couple weeks ago noted that if you use all of our corn for ethanol, all of it, and discounted it for the fossil fuel input, which they said was 80 percent, and this is a little optimistic but 80 percent is not bad, that it would displace 2.4 percent of our gasoline. And they noted correctly that you could save that much gasoline if you tuned up your car and put air in the tires. That just points out the incredible challenge we have. The enormous amounts of energy that we get from this, 21 million barrels of oil we use a day, 70 percent of it in transportation.

Just to look at this bottom pie chart here, why it is not more efficient. Look at this purple section here. That is almost half of it. That is nitrogen fertilizer that we produce from natural gas. Not much in this country because it is too expensive. We produce it some places overseas from gas where gas is stranded. That is, there is gas and nobody to use it and it is hard to haul; so it is cheaper. So we make the nitrogen fertilizer there. Enormous investments of energy in growing corn.

I have several charts that relate specifically to agriculture. Farm productivity and number of farms: And to nobody's surprise, the number of farms have been going down, down, down. You see it in the red line there. While the productivity for the farm has going been going up, up, up. That is because the farms have been getting bigger and bigger and bigger.

Now, to support all of that big expensive equipment, you have to have to farm, you need to farm several thousand acres. I bought a farm in Frederick County. I milked cows. I had 144 acres. I milked 60 cows, and I grew almost everything on the farm that I fed those cows. You can't do that today. The farms are very much bigger and they have huge equipment and just a very different kind of agriculture.

There are several charts here that present a very disturbing story for the family farm. Today, only 2 percent of our people farm, but almost everybody remembers an uncle or aunt or grandparent whose farm you went to. There is a lot of nostalgia in our country for farms. And this shows a percentage of U.S. farms. And these are the little farms. The small family farms are more than 90 percent of all of the farms. But look at the value of production. This little 7.5 percent of the farms which are large-scale family farms, the big family farms, represent 60 percent of all of the productions. And we will see in some future charts that almost all those small family farms are losing money. The people are working off the farm to support them.

Here is the next chart. These are things that our farm bill is going to have to take into consideration. This is a share of farm business assets, acres owned, and acres enrolled in a conservation wetland reserve program.

These are the assets. And you see again that most of the assets are in the small farm. And land owned is nearly the same as assets because the land is the biggest asset the farmer has. That is why that little circle there looks very much like this one. The assets and the land owned are about the same thing because 90 odd percent of all the assets are the land. And this shows that our small farms are really cooperating with these programs. Notice these small farms. That part of the circle has gotten larger. Our small farms are doing a really good job of respecting our wetlands and putting their land in reserve and so forth.

The next chart is almost one that almost makes me weep because I represent a farm district. It still is the biggest industry in my district. And this shows the size of farms and whether they are making money or not. The yellow is if you are making 20 percent or more. The next one is if you are making 10 percent or more, and then 0 to 10 percent in the red. Look at it. Losing money. This is by size of farm. Every farm group loses money. Generally speaking, the smaller you are, the more you lose.

But even our big farms, our biggest farms, large-scale farms, more than a fourth of them are losing money. There is no other segment or society that has as much capital at risk who work so hard and get so little for it as our farmers. Please remember your farmer when you go to the grocery store tonight. When I was a kid 25 percent of the average family budget went for food. Now it is less than 10 percent. And that farmer is subsidizing your quality of life by 15 percent because of his ingenuity and hard work and his willingness to work for less than nothing. He is losing money here. So he is subsidizing your quality of life. Please remember your farmer when you go to the grocery store. You are living as well as you are because he is working as hard as he is.

The next one shows the farmer on the tractor. And, boy, has he got a red tractor. And these are the low sales and the medium sales farms, and if you sell a little more, you don't lose as much.

You have to be a pretty good farmer today to break even, by the way, and a really good farmer to make money.

The next chart: Principal farm operators reporting off-farm work. Boy, the small farms, they are working a lot off the farm, aren't they? I guess you heard the story of the farmer who won \$5 million in the lottery. They asked him what he was going to do with it. He says, "I guess I will just keep farming until it's gone." And that is kind of a sick joke but it is true. That is what our farmers are doing. Many of our farmers are farming away those huge assets you saw in the form of land. They are farming those assets away.

The next chart, this is principal farm operators and self-employed workers and nonagriculture industries who are

at least 65 years old. Every year the average age of our farmers gets almost 1 year older. I know a lot of farmers. I know almost no farmer whose kids want to farm. It is really tough work. There is little financial reward for it. Huge risks, risks that you can't control. Drought, cold weather, frost in the spring, you can't control any of these things and you are at risk by all of those. A very serious problem. Our farmers are getting older and older and who is going to replace them?

Next chart: Gross sales of \$1 million or more. And it is still the family farm but these are, many of them, big family farms. They farm their farm and they lease maybe ten farms around them. And the others have the nice quality of life of living on a farm. And you can have cover 100 acres of land and you lease it to one of these big farmers, and they will be a family farm and they may spend 6 days a year on your farm. They come in with two combines and cut the whole thing. They put Paraquat on it that kills the weeds in the spring and then in 1 day they will plant the whole farm to corn, for instance. They may spend 6 days a year on your farm total.

The next chart is a really interesting chart, and this shows the problem that we would be in if we hadn't been as efficient as we have been. And you saw from those previous charts how our efficiency has slowed that rate of increase in the use of oil, of energy generally, and this shows the avoided supply. That is our efficiency. Wow, that is about a third of it, isn't it?

□ 1815

We would be using a third more if it weren't that we were as efficient as we are.

So what do we do now? Well, I mentioned that I thought that we needed a national program that had the total commitment of World War II. Everybody has to be involved. These two articles, boy, I was appreciative for these two articles. We scheduled this time with you before these articles came out. This was great that they came out because they make my point. We face huge problems.

I have a bill, H.R. 80, the Self-Powered Farm Energy bill. If our farmers can't produce enough energy to run their farm and a bit more for the guy who lives in town, we're in for a really rough time, aren't we? So this is a bill which challenges our farmers to be energy independent. And there's a reward for that. This is not going to cost the taxpayer much money. You know, people work really, really hard for an award, maybe harder than they would work if you were paying them. We are going to give an award for this, for the farms that do the best in this. And we think there is a lot of creativity and ingenuity out there and we should do very well with this.

Another bill that's a good bill, H.R. 670, the so-called DRIVE bill, and

American Energy For America's Future, the bipartisan DRIVE Act, Dependence Reduction through Innovation in Vehicles and Energy Act. By the way, driving that SUV does not make you safer. Look at the fatality statistics. They are higher in the SUV than the family car. Because they turn over so easily, the actual fatality figures are higher for the SUV than they are for the standard family car. You don't need to be in an SUV to be safer.

Well, Mr. Chairman, I think that Americans will really rally to this challenge. As I have said, there is no exhilaration like the exhilaration of meeting and overcoming a big challenge, and boy, this is a huge challenge. And I think properly motivated, the American people will turn to and demonstrate to the world that we are still the most creative, innovative society in the world. I think we can again become an exporting Nation.

There is going to be a lot of technology associated with moving to these sustainable alternatives. Who better than we to develop those technologies. And let's sell them to the world. Let's not turn over the manufacture of these technologies to somebody overseas, let's sell them to the world.

There are two reasons for doing this. One is that if we are going to maintain anything like the quality of life we have now, we really need to do this. And the other thing is there is going to be a mad global scramble for energy. If we haven't led the way, if somebody hasn't led the way to move us to renewables, what will the world do when we come to the reality that there just isn't going to be enough oil there?

Just one little note in closing. We need to rethink a lot of things. Our whole financial structure needs to be rethought. If you think about our financial structure, and I am not an economist, I don't think you have to be an economist to understand obvious things. When we put more money in circulation, it is printed by the Feds. And they put it into the circulation by loaning it to somebody. Now, if there are only two of us in the world, and I borrow money and I have to pay interest on it, one of two things has to happen, either there has to be growth so that I have the money to pay the interest with, or you, if you are the only other guy in the world, you have to lose money. So I have some of your money so that I can pay interest on the money that I borrowed. That's why we start to shudder about the economy when it drops below 2 percent growth. Because we can't imagine an economy that doesn't include growth because our whole financial system is predicated on growth. We have got to have growth.

Now, we can have growth without using more energy if we become more efficient. That's a challenge. So we still can grow some. But that is not limitless growth because that you can't be infinitely efficient. So we will have to, one day, sooner or later, come to the realization that we've got to have a financial system that doesn't require growth. But we can do that.

We have met a whole lot of challenges in the past and done very well with overcoming. And Mr. Speaker, I am very encouraged that with proper leadership, and you know, I will tell you, we don't have much oil in this country, but we have even less real leadership on energy. But with responsible leadership in this country, I think that Americans will heed to, and we will surprise the world with what we can do in meeting the challenges of peak oil.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

By unanimous consent, leave of absence was granted to:

Mr. GUTIERREZ (at the request of Mr. HOYER) for today on account of family illness.

Mr. WESTMORELAND (at the request of Mr. BOEHNER) for today on account of unexpected family medical reasons.

SPECIAL ORDERS GRANTED

By unanimous consent, permission to address the House, following the legislative program and any special orders heretofore entered, was granted to:

(The following Members (at the request of Ms. WOOLSEY) to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material:)

Mr. DEFazio, for 5 minutes, today.

Ms. WOOLSEY, for 5 minutes, today.

(The following Members (at the request of Mr. KING of Iowa) to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material:)

Mr. POE, for 5 minutes, June 21 and 22.

Mr. JONES of North Carolina, for 5 minutes, June 21 and 22.

Ms. GINNY BROWN-WAITE of Florida, for 5 minutes, today.

(The following Member (at her own request) to revise and extend her remarks and include extraneous material:)

Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ, for 5 minutes, today.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. BARTLETT of Maryland. Madam Speaker, I move that the House do now adjourn.

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 6 o'clock and 20 minutes p.m.), under its previous order, the House adjourned until Monday, June 18, 2007, at 12:30 p.m., for morning-hour debate.

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

Under clause 8 of rule XII, executive communications were taken from the Speaker's table and referred as follows:

2224. A letter from the Principal Deputy Associate Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Foramsulfuron; Exemption from the Requirement of a Tolerance [EPA-HQ-OPP-2006-0880; FRL-8125-5] received May 8, 2007, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

2225. A letter from the Principal Deputy Associate Administrator, Environmental

Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Flufenacet; Pesticide Tolerance [EPA-HQ-OPP-2006-0965; FRL-8124-2] received May 8, 2007, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

2226. A letter from the Principal Deputy Associate Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Fenpyroximate; Pesticide Tolerance for Emergency Exemptions [EPA-HQ-OPP-2007-0237] received May 8, 2007, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

2227. A letter from the Principal Deputy Associate Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Clethodim; Pesticide Tolerance [EPA-HQ-OPP-2005-0535; FRL-8127-2] received May 8, 2007, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

2228. A letter from the Principal Deputy Associate Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — *Bacillus thuringiensis* Vip3Aa19 Protein in Cotton; Exemption from the Requirement of a Tolerance [EPA-HQ-OPP-2006-0913; FRL-8124-6] received May 8, 2007, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

2229. A letter from the Principal Deputy Associate Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Dioxin and Dioxin-like Compounds; Toxic Equivalency Information; Community Right-to-Know Toxic Chemicals Release Reporting [EPA-HQ-TRI-2002-0001; FRL-8311-6] (RIN: 2025-AA12) received May 8, 2007, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

2230. A letter from the Principal Deputy Associate Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Determination of Attainment, Approval and Promulgation of Implementation Plans and Designation of Areas from Air Quality Planning Purposes; Ohio; Redesignation of Washington County to Attainment of the 8-Hour Ozone Standard [EPA-R05-OAR-2006-0892; FRL-8313-1] received May 8, 2007, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

2231. A letter from the Principal Deputy Associate Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Determination of Attainment, Approval and Promulgation of Implementation Plans and Designation of Areas for Air Quality Planning Purposes; Ohio; Redesignation of Jefferson County to Attainment of the 8-Hour Ozone Standard [EPA-R05-OAR-2006-0891; FRL-8312-7] received May 8, 2007, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

2232. A letter from the Principal Deputy Associate Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Determination of Attainment, Approval and Promulgation of Implementation Plans and Designation of Areas of Air Quality Planning Purposes; Ohio; Redesignation of Belmont County to Attainment of the 8-Hour Ozone Standard [EPA-R05-OAR-2006-0046; FRL-8312-8] received May 8, 2007, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

2233. A letter from the Principal Deputy Associate Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Determination of Attainment, Approval and Promulgation of Implementation Plans and Designation of Areas

for Air Quality Planning Purposes; Ohio; Re-designation of Allen and Stark Counties to Attainment of the 8-Hour Ozone Standard [EPA-R05-OAR-2006-0046; FRL-8312-9] received May 8, 2007, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

2234. A letter from the Principal Deputy Associate Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Approval and Promulgation of Implementation Plans; State of Iowa [EPA-R07-OAR-2007-0015; FRL-8312-5] received May 8, 2007, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

2235. A communication from the President of the United States, transmitting an supplemental consolidated report, consistent with the War Powers Resolution, to help ensure that the Congress is kept fully informed on U.S. military activities in support of the war on terror and Kosovo, pursuant to Public Law 93-148; (H. Doc. No. —38); to the Committee on Foreign Affairs and ordered to be printed.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES ON PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XIII, reports of committees were delivered to the Clerk for printing and reference to the proper calendar, as follows:

Ms. VELÁZQUEZ: Committee on Small Business. H.R. 2284. A bill to amend the Small Business Act to expand and improve the assistance provided by Small Business Development Centers to Indian tribe members, Alaska Natives, and Native Hawaiians (Rept. 110-192). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union.

Ms. VELÁZQUEZ: Committee on Small Business. H.R. 2359. A bill to reauthorize programs to assist small business concerns, and for other purposes (Rept. 110-193). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union.

Ms. VELÁZQUEZ: Committee on Small Business. H.R. 2366. A bill to reauthorize the veterans entrepreneurial development programs of the Small Business Administration, and for other purposes (Rept. 110-194). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union.

Ms. VELÁZQUEZ: Committee on Small Business. H.R. 2397. A bill to reauthorize the women's entrepreneurial development programs of the Small Business Administration, and for other purposes (Rept. 110-195). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union.

PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XII, public bills and resolutions were introduced and severally referred, as follows:

By Ms. VELÁZQUEZ (for herself, Ms. SOLIS, Mr. SERRANO, and Mr. FORTUÑO):

H.R. 2736. A bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to authorize grants to provide comprehensive HIV/AIDS services to racial and ethnic minorities, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. BOSWELL (for himself and Mr. BISHOP of Georgia):

H.R. 2737. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to allow previously uninsured individuals a refundable credit for health insurance costs and to provide tax incentives to encourage small business health plans; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. LIPINSKI (for himself, Mr. FORTENBERRY, Mr. SHULER, and Mr. ADERHOLT):

H.R. 2738. A bill to empower parents to protect children from increasing depictions of indecent material on television; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. HAYES:

H.R. 2739. A bill to amend title 10, United States Code, relating to payment of mental health counselors under TRICARE; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Mr. PRICE of North Carolina:

H.R. 2740. A bill to require accountability for contractors and contract personnel under Federal contracts, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Ms. SHEA-PORTER:

H.R. 2741. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide a wage index floor for hospitals and home health agencies located in certain areas under the Medicare Program; to the Committee on Ways and Means, and in addition to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. ARCURI (for himself and Mr. McHUGH):

H.R. 2742. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide rate parity for open-loop and closed-loop biomass facilities under the renewable fuels tax credit; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. BARTLETT of Maryland:

H.R. 2743. A bill to provide for the continuance of volunteer communications capability within the United States and its territories; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. BISHOP of New York (for himself, Ms. WOOLSEY, Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California, Ms. KILPATRICK, Ms. HOOLEY, Mr. BAIRD, Mr. KUCINICH, Mrs. MALONEY of New York, Mrs. MCCARTHY of New York, Mr. HARE, Mr. NADLER, Mr. ABERCROMBIE, Mr. ACKERMAN, Mr. COHEN, Mrs. NAPOLITANO, Mr. SCOTT of Virginia, Mr. ELLISON, Mr. GRIJALVA, Mr. PASTOR, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Ms. HIRONO, Ms. SUTTON, Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania, Ms. BERKLEY, Mr. MCNERNEY, Ms. SHEA-PORTER, Ms. BORDALLO, Mr. MCCOTTER, Mr. PAYNE, Mr. AL GREEN of Texas, and Mr. WYNN):

H.R. 2744. A bill to amend the Family and Medical Leave Act of 1993 to clarify the eligibility requirements with respect to airline flight crews; to the Committee on Education and Labor, and in addition to the Committees on Oversight and Government Reform, and House Administration, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. COOPER:

H.R. 2745. A bill to refund passport processing fees and international travel costs as a result of unreasonable delays in passport application processing times, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs, and in addition to the Committee on Homeland Security, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Ms. DEGETTE:

H.R. 2746. A bill to amend titles XIX and XXI of the Social Security Act to provide States with the option to expand or add coverage of pregnant women under the Medicaid and State children's health insurance programs, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. ELLISON (for himself, Mr. RAMSTAD, Mr. ABERCROMBIE, Ms. BERKLEY, Mr. BOSWELL, Mr. CARNAHAN, Mr. CLEAVER, Mr. COHEN, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. LARSEN of Washington, Ms. MCCOLLUM of Minnesota, Mr. OBERSTAR, and Mr. WALZ of Minnesota):

H.R. 2747. A bill to establish a grant program to facilitate the creation of methamphetamine precursor electronic logbook systems, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on the Judiciary, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN:

H.R. 2748. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to allow the alternative motor vehicle personal credit against the alternative minimum tax; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. GORDON (for himself and Mr. SHADEGG):

H.R. 2749. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for a transition to a new voluntary quality reporting program for physicians and other health professionals; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on Ways and Means, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas (for herself and Mr. CULBERSON):

H.R. 2750. A bill to require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint coins in commemoration of the 50th anniversary of the establishment of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration and the Jet Propulsion Laboratory; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Ms. HARMAN (for herself, Mr. UPTON, Mr. WYNN, and Mr. HASTERT):

H.R. 2751. A bill to prohibit the sale of certain inefficient light bulbs, and require the development of a plan for increasing the use of more efficient light bulbs by consumers and businesses; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. LAMPSON:

H.R. 2752. A bill to amend provisions of title IX of the Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002 relating to Federal procurement of bio-based products and labeling of such products; to the Committee on Agriculture, and in addition to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Ms. NORTON:

H.R. 2753. A bill to amend title III of the Higher Education Act of 1965 to include law school and other graduate schools of the University of the District of Columbia as eligible professional and graduate institutions, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Education and Labor.

By Mr. PAUL (for himself, Mr. GUTIERREZ, and Mr. JONES of North Carolina):

H.R. 2754. A bill to require the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System to continue to make available to the public on a weekly basis information on the measure of the M3 monetary aggregate, and its components, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Mr. PAUL:

H.R. 2755. A bill to abolish the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System and the Federal reserve banks, to repeal the

Federal Reserve Act, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Mr. PAUL:

H.R. 2756. A bill to repeal section 5103 of title 31, United States Code; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Mr. THOMPSON of California (for himself and Mr. YOUNG of Alaska):

H.R. 2757. A bill to amend the Acts popularly known as the Duck Stamp Act and the Wetland Loan Act to reauthorize appropriations to promote the conservation of migratory waterfowl and to offset or prevent the serious loss of important wetlands and other waterfowl habitat essential to the preservation of such waterfowl, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Mr. THOMPSON of California:

H.R. 2758. A bill to permanently prohibit oil and gas leasing off the coast of Mendocino, Humboldt, and Del Norte Counties in the State of California, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Mr. VISCLOSKEY:

H.R. 2759. A bill to prohibit business enterprises that lay-off a greater percentage of their United States workers than workers in other countries from receiving any Federal assistance, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

By Mr. TANCREDO (for himself, Mr. CHABOT, Mr. BURTON of Indiana, and Mr. MCCOTTER):

H. Con. Res. 170. Concurrent resolution expressing the sense of Congress that the International Olympic Committee should allow Taiwan (Republic of China) to participate in the 2008 Summer Olympics under the national name, flag, and anthem of its own choosing; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

By Mr. SARBANES:

H. Res. 489. A resolution commemorating the Work of United Nations Peacekeepers on International Day of United Nations Peacekeeping; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

By Mr. SMITH of Texas (for himself, Mr. CUELLAR, Mr. RODRIGUEZ, and Mr. GONZALEZ):

H. Res. 490. A resolution honoring the 2007 NBA Champion San Antonio Spurs; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

PRIVATE BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 3 of rule XII,

Mr. FILNER introduced A bill (H.R. 2760) for the relief of Shigeru Yamada; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

ADDITIONAL SPONSORS

Under clause 7 of rule XII, sponsors were added to public bills and resolutions as follows:

H.R. 20: Ms. BEAN.

H.R. 23: Ms. LORETTA SANCHEZ of California, Mrs. JO ANN DAVIS of Virginia, Mr. JONES of North Carolina, Mr. COSTA, Mr. BACA, Mr. VISCLOSKEY, Mr. PASTOR, Mr. SESTAK, Mr. FORTUÑO, Mr. DELAHUNT, Mr. CONYERS, Mr. JEFFERSON, and Mr. FARR.

H.R. 82: Ms. DEGETTE, Mr. KELLER, Mr. CAMP of Michigan, and Mr. BILBRAY.

H.R. 111: Mr. MEEHAN.

H.R. 135: Mr. STUPAK.

H.R. 139: Mr. LEWIS of Kentucky.

H.R. 181: Ms. BORDALLO and Mr. HONDA.

H.R. 192: Mr. LAHOOD.

H.R. 197: Mr. JINDAL.

H.R. 237: Mr. BLUNT, Mr. HULSHOF, Mr. MORAN of Kansas, and Mr. SMITH of Nebraska.

H.R. 293: Mr. SCOTT of Georgia.

H.R. 303: Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia.

H.R. 332: Mrs. CUBIN and Mr. BILBRAY.

H.R. 346: Mr. NADLER.

H.R. 549: Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. JINDAL, Mr. LAHOOD, and Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts.

H.R. 552: Mr. FERGUSON, Ms. GRANGER, Mr. LANTOS, Mr. KUHLMAN of New York, and Mr. WALDEN of Oregon.

H.R. 563: Mr. SOUDER.

H.R. 618: Mr. POE.

H.R. 623: Ms. NORTON.

H.R. 642: Mr. SIRES, Mr. PATRICK MURPHY of Pennsylvania, and Ms. CASTOR.

H.R. 643: Mr. LYNCH, Mrs. MUSGRAVE, Ms. CASTOR, and Mr. BISHOP of Georgia.

H.R. 649: Mr. NEAL of Massachusetts.

H.R. 654: Mr. EMANUEL.

H.R. 657: Mrs. JO ANN DAVIS of Virginia and Mr. SHULER.

H.R. 662: Ms. HIRONO.

H.R. 676: Mr. BERMAN.

H.R. 689: Mr. THORNBERRY.

H.R. 690: Mrs. BOYDA of Kansas.

H.R. 743: Mr. WOLF, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. BAIRD, Mr. BISHOP of New York, Mr. RYAN of Ohio, Mr. SALAZAR, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Mr. KILDEE, Mr. BACA, Mr. BUTTERFIELD, Mr. SMITH of Washington, and Mrs. DRAKE.

H.R. 748: Ms. SOLIS, Mr. WALDEN of Oregon, Mr. KENNEDY, and Mr. SHERMAN.

H.R. 760: Mr. PASCRELL, Ms. HARMAN, and Mrs. NAPOLITANO.

H.R. 814: Mrs. BOYDA of Kansas.

H.R. 867: Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania and Mr. TIBERI.

H.R. 880: Mr. BUCHANAN and Mr. BOOZMAN.

H.R. 882: Mr. FORTUÑO, Mr. JEFFERSON, Mrs. BLACKBURN, Mr. MCGOVERN, Mr. ALEXANDER, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Mr. JONES of North Carolina, Mr. BURGESS, Ms. KILPATRICK, Mr. WEXLER, Mr. RUPPERSBERGER, and Mr. MORAN of Virginia.

H.R. 889: Mr. KNOLLENBERG.

H.R. 969: Mr. ARCURI, Mr. DOYLE, Mr. MEEHAN, Mr. MURPHY of Connecticut, and Ms. CORRINE BROWN of Florida.

H.R. 970: Mr. WYNN.

H.R. 980: Mr. STARK, Ms. CASTOR, Mr. MEEHAN, Mr. CAMP of Michigan, and Mr. DELAHUNT.

H.R. 1004: Mr. HONDA, Ms. CORRINE BROWN of Florida, and Mrs. MCCARTHY of New York.

H.R. 1023: Mr. CUELLAR, Mr. BURTON of Indiana, Mr. MILLER of Florida, Mr. BERRY, Mr. SOUDER, Mr. MATHESON, Mr. SALI, Mr. FLAKE, Mr. LUCAS, Mr. FORTUÑO, Mr. WELDON of Florida, Mr. NEUGEBAUER, Mr. BRADY of Texas, Mr. HONDA, Mr. PAUL, Mr. MCINTYRE, Ms. CORRINE BROWN of Florida, and Mr. WALZ of Minnesota.

H.R. 1040: Mr. WAMP.

H.R. 1071: Mr. HOLT.

H.R. 1073: Mr. LINCOLN DAVIS of Tennessee and Mr. PLATTS.

H.R. 1084: Mr. MORAN of Virginia.

H.R. 1103: Ms. HARMAN, Mr. HINCHEY, and Ms. MCCOLLUM of Minnesota.

H.R. 1113: Mr. CONAWAY, Mrs. JONES of Ohio, Mr. SCOTT of Virginia, Mr. CONYERS, Mr. SCOTT of Georgia, Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas, Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts, Mrs. CHRISTENSEN, Mr. BUTTERFIELD, Mrs. SLAUGHTER, Ms. KILPATRICK, Ms. DELAULO, Mr. COSTELLO, Mr. LEWIS of Georgia, Mr. MEEK of Florida, Mr. LIPINSKI, Mr. KIRK, Mr. ELLSWORTH, Ms. MCCOLLUM of Minnesota, and Mr. CRENSHAW.

H.R. 1125: Mr. CRENSHAW, Mr. LINCOLN DIAZ-BALART of Florida, Mr. AL GREEN of Texas, and Ms. WATSON.

H.R. 1188: Ms. NORTON.

H.R. 1193: Ms. SCHWARTZ, Mr. BRADY of Texas, Mr. BOSWELL, Mr. GINGREY, and Mr. MCGOVERN.

H.R. 1216: Mr. PASTOR.

H.R. 1230: Mr. ISRAEL.

H.R. 1237: Mrs. BLACKBURN, Mr. SNYDER, Ms. DEGETTE, and Mr. MORAN of Virginia.

H.R. 1280: Ms. WOOLSEY and Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts.

H.R. 1310: Mr. COHEN, Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania, Mr. THOMPSON of California, and Mr. ELLISON.

H.R. 1338: Mr. GONZALEZ and Mr. MURPHY of Connecticut.

H.R. 1350: Mr. RYAN of Ohio.

H.R. 1366: Ms. FOXX and Mr. LATOURETTE.

H.R. 1396: Mr. HARE.

H.R. 1419: Mr. THOMPSON of California, Mr. WOLF, and Mr. FORTENBERRY.

H.R. 1464: Mr. MILLER of North Carolina and Mr. KIRK.

H.R. 1471: Mr. GOODE.

H.R. 1473: Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia.

H.R. 1474: Mr. KIND, Mr. SPRATT, and Mr. REYNOLDS.

H.R. 1498: Ms. DEGETTE and Mr. UDALL of Colorado.

H.R. 1507: Mr. WEXLER.

H.R. 1533: Mr. GONZALEZ.

H.R. 1536: Ms. HARMAN.

H.R. 1537: Mr. LARSEN of Washington and Mr. LEWIS of California.

H.R. 1551: Mr. WEINER.

H.R. 1553: Mrs. DRAKE, Mr. PETERSON of Minnesota, Mr. HINOJOSA, Mr. GONZALEZ, Mr. BURTON of Indiana, Mr. CUELLAR, Mr. CANTOR, Mr. MEEHAN, Mr. WU, Mr. ALEXANDER, Mr. GORDON, Mr. LATHAM, and Mr. CRAMER.

H.R. 1567: Ms. GIFFORDS, Ms. DEGETTE, Mr. HASTINGS of Florida, Mr. MARSHALL, Mr. SHULER, Mrs. DAVIS of California, Mr. GRIJALVA, Mr. PLATTS, and Mr. ELLISON.

H.R. 1584: Mr. FILNER, Mr. BERRY, Mr. BARROW, Mr. BRALEY of Iowa, Mr. WILSON of Ohio, Mr. PETERSON of Pennsylvania, Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California, Mr. SHERMAN, Mr. CHANDLER, Mr. STUPAK, and Mr. DAVID DAVIS of Tennessee.

H.R. 1586: Mr. REHBERG.

H.R. 1609: Mr. MCNULTY, Mr. LINCOLN DIAZ-BALART of Florida, and Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas.

H.R. 1610: Mr. ROSS, Mr. COURTNEY, Mr. BARROW, Mr. SMITH of Nebraska, Mr. CLEAVER, and Mr. BERRY.

H.R. 1614: Mr. SESTAK, Mr. JACKSON of Illinois, and Ms. DELAULO.

H.R. 1629: Mr. GORDON and Ms. VELÁZQUEZ.

H.R. 1644: Ms. CLARKE.

H.R. 1649: Mr. SMITH of Nebraska.

H.R. 1671: Mr. BISHOP of Georgia.

H.R. 1699: Ms. NORTON.

H.R. 1705: Mr. WAMP and Mr. MARIO DIAZ-BALART of Florida.

H.R. 1711: Mr. MORAN of Virginia.

H.R. 1713: Mr. DOYLE and Mr. HASTINGS of Florida.

H.R. 1731: Mr. GOODLATTE.

H.R. 1738: Ms. NORTON, Mr. BISHOP of Georgia, and Mr. WALDEN of Oregon.

H.R. 1747: Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas.

H.R. 1755: Ms. ZOE LOFGREN of California.

H.R. 1767: Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia.

H.R. 1772: Mr. BISHOP of Georgia.

H.R. 1776: Mr. HIGGINS.

H.R. 1814: Mr. GILLMOR and Mr. BISHOP of Georgia.

H.R. 1821: Mr. FILNER and Mrs. BONO.

H.R. 1838: Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi, Mr. HOLDEN, and Mr. LINCOLN DAVIS of Tennessee.

H.R. 1852: Mr. MORAN of Virginia.

H.R. 1869: Mr. AL GREEN of Texas, Mr. ALTMIRE, and Mr. SOUDER.

H.R. 1878: Mr. MORAN of Virginia.

H.R. 1882: Mr. HASTINGS of Florida.

H.R. 1921: Mr. DEFazio.

H.R. 1922: Mr. HASTINGS of Florida and Mr. KLEIN of Florida.

H.R. 1927: Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia.

H.R. 1932: Mr. BECERRA and Ms. DEGETTE.

H.R. 1940: Mr. STEARNS and Mr. MILLER of Florida.
 H.R. 1941: Mr. WALZ of Minnesota.
 H.R. 1944: Mr. WILSON of Ohio and Mr. UDALL of New Mexico.
 H.R. 1957: Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts and Mr. LANTOS.
 H.R. 1959: Mr. MOLLOHAN, Mr. BISHOP of Georgia, and Mrs. EMERSON.
 H.R. 1975: Mr. COSTELLO and Mr. HONDA.
 H.R. 1992: Mr. COHEN and Mr. TIERNEY.
 H.R. 2015: Mr. HARE and Mr. WELCH of Vermont.
 H.R. 2017: Mr. SESTAK.
 H.R. 2036: Mr. BAIRD and Ms. LORETTA SANCHEZ of California.
 H.R. 2040: Mr. ROGERS of Michigan, Ms. MCCOLLUM of Minnesota, and Mr. BERMAN.
 H.R. 2046: Mr. FOSSELLA.
 H.R. 2050: Mr. MCGOVERN.
 H.R. 2053: Mr. BLUMENAUER, Mr. RUSH, and Mr. CAMP of Michigan.
 H.R. 2054: Mr. SPACE.
 H.R. 2058: Mr. MORAN of Virginia.
 H.R. 2060: Mr. SCOTT of Georgia.
 H.R. 2066: Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Mr. GORDON, Mr. DAVIS of Illinois, Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania, Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas, Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas, Mr. MORAN of Virginia, and Mr. CHANDLER.
 H.R. 2088: Mr. BISHOP of Georgia.
 H.R. 2102: Mr. DELAHUNT, Mr. PALLONE, and Mr. AL GREEN of Texas.
 H.R. 2111: Mr. HARE.
 H.R. 2117: Mr. KUHLM of New York.
 H.R. 2131: Mr. BURTON of Indiana, Mr. ALLEN, and Mr. BISHOP of Georgia.
 H.R. 2139: Mr. GILLMOR, Mr. SIRE, Mr. ELLISON, Mr. KNOLLENBERG, and Mr. SOUDER.
 H.R. 2144: Ms. NORTON.
 H.R. 2154: Mr. WALZ of Minnesota.
 H.R. 2164: Mr. GERLACH.
 H.R. 2165: Mr. CASTLE and Mr. ARCURI.
 H.R. 2166: Mr. RUSH and Ms. NORTON.
 H.R. 2178: Mr. BISHOP of Georgia.
 H.R. 2183: Mr. HERGER and Mrs. CUBIN.
 H.R. 2201: Mr. SESTAK.
 H.R. 2205: Mr. FORTUÑO.
 H.R. 2231: Mr. KANJORSKI.
 H.R. 2234: Mr. AL GREEN of Texas, Mr. BERMAN, and Mr. PEARCE.
 H.R. 2265: Mr. MORAN of Kansas, Mr. LATOURETTE, Mr. DELAHUNT, Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. ELLISON, Mr. ENGLISH of Pennsylvania, and Ms. LINDA T. SANCHEZ of California.
 H.R. 2266: Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas and Mr. BISHOP of Georgia.
 H.R. 2274: Mr. BISHOP of New York and Mr. WAMP.
 H.R. 2280: Mr. RAMSTAD, Mr. SMITH of Nebraska, Mr. BISHOP of Georgia, and Mr. MANZULLO.
 H.R. 2289: Mr. CARNEY, Mr. KUCINICH, and Mr. LEWIS of Kentucky.
 H.R. 2295: Mr. NUNES, Mr. DAVIS of Illinois, Mr. LAHOOD, and Mr. SERRANO.
 H.R. 2303: Mr. SCOTT of Virginia.
 H.R. 2304: Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas and Ms. BERKLEY.
 H.R. 2305: Mr. PAUL.
 H.R. 2353: Mr. TERRY and Ms. NORTON.
 H.R. 2362: Ms. BERKLEY and Mr. RADANOVICH.
 H.R. 2365: Mr. HOLT, Mrs. CAPITO, and Mr. RYAN of Wisconsin.
 H.R. 2380: Mr. HASTERT, Mr. PUTNAM, Mr. CHABOT, Mr. REHBERG, Mr. JOHNSON of Illinois, Mr. MANZULLO, Mr. SCOTT of Georgia, Mr. RUPPERSBERGER, Mr. ISSA, Mr. SOUDER, Mr. HUNTER, Mr. GILLMOR, Mr. GOHMERT, Mr. WILSON of South Carolina, and Mr. JONES of North Carolina.
 H.R. 2395: Ms. ZOE LOFGREN of California.
 H.R. 2401: Mr. DAVIS of Illinois.
 H.R. 2405: Mrs. CAPPS.
 H.R. 2449: Mr. SIRE and Mr. ORTIZ.
 H.R. 2452: Mr. KUCINICH and Mr. HINCHEY.
 H.R. 2470: Mr. MEEKS of New York, Mr. GERLACH, Ms. ZOE LOFGREN of California, and Mr. WALZ of Minnesota.

H.R. 2477: Mr. CAMP of Michigan.
 H.R. 2497: Mr. GORDON.
 H.R. 2511: Mr. BRALEY of Iowa.
 H.R. 2518: Mr. MCNERNEY and Ms. WOOLSEY.
 H.R. 2522: Mr. McDERMOTT and Mr. BISHOP of Georgia.
 H.R. 2526: Mr. FORTUÑO.
 H.R. 2550: Mr. RANGEL.
 H.R. 2572: Ms. DELAULO, Mr. BISHOP of Georgia, Mr. GORDON, Mr. McNULTY, and Mr. COHEN.
 H.R. 2574: Mr. HOEKSTRA, Mr. YOUNG of Alaska, Mr. RUSH, Mrs. BONO, Mr. DAVIS of Illinois, and Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania.
 H.R. 2580: Mr. PETERSON of Pennsylvania.
 H.R. 2583: Mr. LATOURETTE, Mrs. EMERSON, Mr. GILCHREST, Mr. PLATTS, and Mr. CASTLE.
 H.R. 2584: Mr. LATOURETTE, Mrs. EMERSON, Mr. GILCHREST, Mr. PLATTS, and Mr. CASTLE.
 H.R. 2585: Mrs. EMERSON, Mr. EHLERS, and Ms. GINNY BROWN-WAITE of Florida.
 H.R. 2591: Mr. HIGGINS, Mr. CHANDLER, and Mr. MORAN of Virginia.
 H.R. 2599: Mr. RODRIGUEZ, Mr. PASCRELL, Mr. GRIJALVA, Mr. BACA, Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas, Mr. GONZALEZ, Mr. CUELLAR, Ms. SOLIS, Mr. BECERRA, Mr. CARDOZA, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. MCGOVERN, Mr. HIGGINS, Mr. ARCURI, Mr. DONNELLY, Mr. SALAZAR, Mr. HALL of New York, Mr. PASTOR, and Mr. WILSON of Ohio.
 H.R. 2604: Mr. MICHAUD, Mr. AL GREEN of Texas, Mr. RANGEL, and Mr. BLUMENAUER.
 H.R. 2606: Mr. GOODE.
 H.R. 2672: Mr. MCCARTHY of California.
 H.R. 2674: Mr. PASTOR and Mr. BERMAN.
 H.R. 2682: Mr. ALEXANDER, Mr. WOLF, and Mr. COBLE.
 H.R. 2704: Ms. GINNY BROWN-WAITE of Florida.
 H.R. 2707: Mr. LEWIS of Georgia, Mr. BISHOP of Georgia, and Ms. DELAULO.
 H.R. 2715: Ms. ESHOO.
 H.R. 2720: Mr. ROTHMAN and Mr. HOLT.
 H.R. 2722: Mr. BISHOP of New York.
 H.R. 2734: Mr. ENGLISH of Pennsylvania, Mr. CALVERT, and Mr. PETERSON of Pennsylvania.
 H.J. Res. 3: Mr. DAVIS of Illinois.
 H.J. Res. 22: Mr. GOODE.
 H.J. Res. 40: Mr. COHEN and Mr. WILSON of Ohio.
 H.J. Res. 46: Mr. JONES of North Carolina.
 H. Con. Res. 25: Mr. PERLMUTTER, Mr. DONNELLY, and Mr. UPTON.
 H. Con. Res. 33: Mr. MEEHAN.
 H. Con. Res. 40: Mr. BISHOP of Utah.
 H. Con. Res. 81: Mr. MEEHAN.
 H. Con. Res. 101: Ms. NORTON.
 H. Con. Res. 108: Mr. MORAN of Virginia, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas, and Mr. HONDA.
 H. Con. Res. 138: Mr. PALLONE, Mr. GONZALEZ, Mr. RANGEL, Mr. SESTAK, Mr. COHEN, Mr. HINOJOSA, Mr. SERRANO, and Mr. BISHOP of Georgia.
 H. Con. Res. 141: Ms. NORTON.
 H. Con. Res. 143: Mr. HARE, Mr. MICHAUD, Mr. ALTMIRE, Mr. ARCURI, Mr. BOYD of Florida, Mr. BRALEY of Iowa, Mr. CARDOZA, Ms. CASTOR, Mr. ELLSWORTH, Mr. HALL of New York, Ms. HERSETH SANDLIN, Mr. HODES, Mr. LOEBSACK, Mr. MCNERNEY, Mr. MCGOVERN, Ms. MATSUI, Mr. RUPPERSBERGER, Mr. SARBANES, Mr. SHULER, Ms. SLAUGHTER, Mr. YARMUTH, Mr. WELCH of Vermont, Mr. DOGGETT, Mr. KILDEE, Mr. PASCRELL, Mr. HASTINGS of Florida, Mr. SNYDER, Mr. SESTAK, Mr. WALZ of Minnesota, Mr. MOORE of Kansas, Mr. STUPAK, Mr. HONDA, Mr. COHEN, Mr. SIRE, Mr. ELLISON, and Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD.
 H. Con. Res. 153: Mr. WALSH of New York.
 H. Con. Res. 159: Mr. KANJORSKI.
 H. Con. Res. 162: Mr. SESTAK and Mrs. EMERSON.
 H. Res. 49: Mr. MORAN of Virginia.
 H. Res. 169: Mr. BAIRD.

H. Res. 231: Mr. FLAKE and Mr. DOOLITTLE.
 H. Res. 282: Mr. GONZALEZ and Mr. BURTON of Indiana.
 H. Res. 297: Ms. NORTON.
 H. Res. 335: Mr. MORAN of Virginia.
 R. Res. 351: Mr. HALL of Texas and Mr. MILLER of Florida.
 H. Res. 353: Mr. PALLONE, Mr. RANGEL, Mr. GONZALEZ, Mr. HINOJOSA, Mr. SERRANO, and Mr. BISHOP of Georgia.
 H. Res. 356: Mr. MARIO DIAZ-BALART of Florida, Ms. KAPTUR, Ms. ESHOO, Mrs. MCCARTHY of New York, Mr. JACKSON of Illinois, Ms. WATSON, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. McNULTY, Mr. MCINTYRE, Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN, Mr. SIRE, Mr. CARNAHAN, Mr. ANDREWS, Mr. NADLER, Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts, Ms. NORTON, Ms. ZOE LOFGREN of California, Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California, Ms. HOOLEY, and Mr. DOYLE.
 H. Res. 380: Mr. MCNERNEY, Mr. PAYNE, Mr. MORAN of Kansas, Mr. BARTLETT of Maryland, Mr. SERRANO, Mr. SENSENBRENNER, Mr. HASTINGS of Florida, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. BURTON of Indiana, Mrs. JO ANN DAVIS of Virginia, Mr. AKIN, Mrs. CUBIN, Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas, Mr. FORTUÑO, Mr. INGLIS of South Carolina, and Mr. LANTOS.
 H. Res. 384: Mrs. MUSGRAVE, Mr. SALI, Mr. GORDON, and Mr. BOUSTANY.
 H. Res. 442: Mr. MCCOTTER, Ms. NORTON, Mr. BURTON of Indiana, Mr. DAVIS of Illinois, Mr. CLEAVER, and Mr. SCOTT of Georgia.
 H. Res. 444: Mr. CARNAHAN.
 H. Res. 447: Mr. DAVIS of Illinois.
 H. Res. 467: Mr. SESTAK, Ms. CASTOR, and Mr. CARNAHAN.
 H. Res. 479: Mr. ROGERS of Michigan.
 H. Res. 485: Mrs. BIGGERT, Mr. HALL of Texas, and Mr. UDALL of Colorado.
 H. Res. 488: Mr. CAMPBELL of California, Mr. BURGESS, Mr. TIAHRT, Mrs. BACHMANN, Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas, Mr. REICHERT, Mr. THORNBERRY, Mr. TIBERI, and Mr. McKEON.

AMENDMENTS

Under clause 8 of rule XVIII, proposed amendments were submitted as follows:

H.R. 2642

OFFERED BY: MRS. MUSGRAVE

AMENDMENT No. 18: At the end of the bill (before the short title), add the following new section:

SEC. ____ None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available in this Act may be used for any action that is related to or promotes the expansion of the boundaries or size of the Pinon Canyon Maneuver Site in southeastern Colorado.

H.R. 2642

OFFERED BY: MR. BLUMENAUER

AMENDMENT No. 19: Page 10, line 17, insert after the dollar amount the following: “(increased by \$50,000,000)”.

Page 10, line 24, insert after the dollar amount the following: “(reduced by \$201,000,000)”.

H.R. 2642

OFFERED BY: MS. HARMAN

AMENDMENT No. 20: At the end of the bill (before the short title), insert the following:

SEC. 409. None of the funds made available in this Act may be used to purchase light bulbs unless the light bulbs have the “ENERGY STAR” designation.

H.R. 2642

OFFERED BY: MS. JACKSON-LEE OF TEXAS

AMENDMENT No. 21: Page 44, after line 22, insert the following new section:

SEC. 223. (a) The Secretary of Veterans Affairs shall increase the number of medical

centers specializing in post-traumatic stress disorder in underserved urban areas, which shall include using the services of existing health care entities.

(b) At least one of the existing health care institutions used by the Secretary pursuant to subsection (a) shall be—

(1) located in an area defined as a HUBzone (as that term is defined in section 3(p) of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 632(p)) on the basis of one or more qualified census tracts;

(2) located within a State that has sustained more than five percent of the total casualties suffered by the United States Armed Forces in Operation Enduring Freedom and Operation Iraqi Freedom, as May 1, 2007; and

(3) have at least 20 years experience and significant expertise in providing treatment and counseling services with respect to substance abuse, alcohol addiction, and psychiatric or stress-related disorders to populations with special needs, including veterans and members of the Armed Forces serving on active duty.

H.R. 2642

OFFERED BY: MS. CORRINE BROWN OF FLORIDA

AMENDMENT NO. 22: Page 30, line 14, after the dollar amount, insert “(reduced by \$40,000,000)”.

Page 33, line 14, after the dollar amount, insert “(increased by \$40,000,000)”.

2008 Financial Services and General
Government Appropriations Bill

OFFERED BY: MR. GARRETT OF NEW JERSEY

AMENDMENT No. 1: At the end of title VI, insert the following:

SEC. _____. None of the funds made available under this Act may be used by the Securities and Exchange Commission to enforce the requirements of section 404 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act with respect to non-accelerated filers, who, pursuant to section 210.2-02T of title 17, Code of Federal Regulations, are not required to comply with such section 404 prior to December 15, 2007.



United States
of America

Congressional Record

PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE 110th CONGRESS, FIRST SESSION

Vol. 153

WASHINGTON, FRIDAY, JUNE 15, 2007

No. 97

Senate

The Senate met at 9:30 a.m. and was called to order by the Honorable SHELDON WHITEHOUSE, a Senator from the State of Rhode Island.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, Dr. Barry C. Black, offered the following prayer:

Let us pray.

Eternal Father, may Your Name be magnified. Today, give our lawmakers the wisdom to put their trust in You. Help them to accept Your guidance and seek Your insights. Keep them from being intimidated by the many challenges they face, infusing them with confidence in Your power. Make them so sure of Your presence that no task may be too wearisome for them and no setback too daunting. Let their faith lead them away from strife and division as they find unity for the good of the Nation and world. May they depend unswervingly upon Your unlimited goodness.

We pray in Your holy Name. Amen.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Honorable SHELDON WHITEHOUSE led the Pledge of Allegiance, as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

APPOINTMENT OF ACTING PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will please read a communication to the Senate from the President pro tempore (Mr. BYRD).

The legislative clerk read the following letter:

U.S. SENATE,
PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE,
Washington, DC, June 15, 2007.

To the Senate:

Under the provisions of rule I, paragraph 3, of the Standing Rules of the Senate, I hereby appoint the Honorable SHELDON WHITEHOUSE,

a Senator from the State of Rhode Island, to perform the duties of the Chair.

ROBERT C. BYRD,
President pro tempore.

Mr. WHITEHOUSE thereupon assumed the chair as Acting President pro tempore.

RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The majority leader is recognized.

SCHEDULE

Mr. REID. Mr. President, we will shortly resume consideration of the energy legislation. There are no rollcall votes scheduled today. We have heard from a number of Senators on both sides of the aisle of their desire to come and offer amendments. The managers of the bill have indicated they are willing to set amendments aside to move on that. I think that is appropriate.

There will also be no rollcall votes on Monday. This has been a long schedule, but it is, again, my hope that Members will take that opportunity to come offer and debate amendments on this energy legislation.

Sometime next week—and I will meet and discuss this with the distinguished Republican leader—if this debate doesn't speed up and more amendments are not offered, then we will have to see if we can move to end the debate and finish this legislation.

There are issues that are important. There has to be some decision, a finality made with regard to the pieces of the bill that are so important, such as the renewable portfolio standard, the CAFE standards, and there is also interest in coal-to-liquid and the different ways that can be done.

As I understand it, those are the three big issues, so I would hope Members who have those issues, whether

amendments or whatever else they want to focus their attention on, would do so. The American people want us to do something dealing with energy. This is a good bipartisan bill, and I would hope Members would understand this is their time to come and offer amendments.

I would also note, as indicated in the morning press, that Senator McCONNELL and I met last evening with a bipartisan group of Senators regarding immigration, and we now have a pathway forward on that. When we finish the energy legislation, we will move to that legislation. I think we have now an agreed-upon number of amendments that will be offered by Republicans and Democrats and we should get to that sometime next week.

We are going to finish that legislation and the energy legislation prior to our having our Fourth of July recess. I would also indicate to all Senators and staffs, it is Friday, and I know that a lot of times—I would not say a lot of times but on a number of occasions—I have indicated we might have to work weekends. I know this causes a lot of stress to folks. But everyone should know that to complete this bill and to complete the immigration bill will require next weekend, without any question, next weekend, Saturday and Sunday.

Now, of course, it is always possible that through unanimous consent certain work that could be done in 1 day could be put over to another day, and I understand that. But Senators should understand this is the real thing. If we are going to finish these two bills, which both the Republican leader and I think is absolutely mandatory and essential, Senators should be advised that next Saturday and Sunday, which means the preceding Friday, which is a week from today, and a week from Monday, we will be in session.

We only have 2 weeks left in this work period, and I hope we don't have to run into the Fourth of July recess

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.



Printed on recycled paper.

S7779

period, which is only 1 week long. We have a number of things we are going to try to do this morning. We are going to get to a couple of judges. We hope to pass those. We have a number of other things we need to do. We have so many things we need to complete, but a lot of them are very complicated and difficult, such as the Energy bill and immigration. At least we have a pathway forward on these, and I think we can work them out.

It goes without saying that if we are able to complete these prior to the Fourth of July recess, that would be fine. But if we can't, the Fourth of July recess will take second fiddle to these important pieces of legislation.

RESERVATION OF LEADER TIME

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order the leadership time is reserved.

CREATING LONG-TERM ENERGY ALTERNATIVES FOR THE NATION ACT OF 2007

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, the Senate will resume consideration of H.R. 6, which the clerk will report by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 6) to reduce our Nation's dependency on foreign oil by investing in clean, renewable, and alternative energy resources, promoting new emerging energy technologies, developing greater efficiency, and creating a Strategic Energy Efficiency and Renewables Reserve to invest in alternative energy, and for other purposes.

Pending:

REID AMENDMENT NO. 1502, IN THE NATURE OF A SUBSTITUTE.

Reid (for Bingaman) amendment No. 1537 (to amendment No. 1502), to provide for a renewable portfolio standard.

Klobuchar (for Bingaman) amendment No. 1573 (to amendment No. 1537), to provide for a renewable portfolio standard.

Bingaman (for Klobuchar) amendment No. 1557 (to amendment No. 1502), to establish a national greenhouse gas registry.

Kohl amendment No. 1519 (to amendment No. 1502), to amend the Sherman Act to make oil-producing and exporting cartels illegal.

Kohl (for DeMint) amendment No. 1546 (to amendment 1502), to provide that legislation that would increase the national average fuel prices for automobiles is subject to a point of order in the Senate.

Mr. BINGAMAN. Mr. President, I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. CORKER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

AMENDMENT NO. 1608 TO AMENDMENT NO. 1502

Mr. CORKER. I ask unanimous consent the pending amendment be tempo-

rarily laid aside so I may offer amendment No. 1608.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Is there objection?

Mr. DOMENICI. Mr. President, I understand this is all right with the other side, so we have no objection.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The clerk will report.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

The Senator from Tennessee [Mr. CORKER] proposes an amendment numbered 1608 to amendment No. 1502.

Mr. CORKER. I ask unanimous consent the reading of the amendment be dispensed with.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The amendment is as follows:

(Purpose: To allow clean fuels to meet the renewable fuel standard)

In section 102(1)(B)(v), strike "and" at the end.

In section 102(1)(B)(vi), strike the period at the end and insert "; and".

At the end of section 102(1)(B), add the following:

(vii) after December 31, 2015, any fuel that—

(I) is not derived from crude oil; and

(II) achieves—

(aa) as compared to conventional gasoline, lifecycle emission reductions of 2 or more air pollutants, including—

(AA) sulfur dioxide;

(BB) nitrogen oxides;

(CC) carbon monoxide;

(DD) particulate matter with a diameter smaller than 10 microns; and

(EE) volatile organic compounds; and

(bb) a 20-percent reduction in lifecycle greenhouse gas emissions compared to conventional gasoline.

In section 102, redesignate paragraphs (3) through (7) as paragraphs (4) through (8), respectively, and insert between paragraphs (2) and (4) (as so redesignated) the following:

(3) CLEAN FUEL.—The term "clean fuel" means motor vehicle fuel, boiler fuel, or home heating fuel that—

(A) is not derived from crude oil;

(B)(i) as compared to conventional gasoline, has lower lifecycle emissions of 2 or more air pollutants, including—

(I) sulfur dioxide;

(II) nitrogen oxides;

(III) carbon monoxide;

(IV) particulate matter with a diameter smaller than 10 microns; and

(V) volatile organic compounds; or

(ii) achieves a 20-percent reduction in lifecycle greenhouse gas emissions compared to conventional gasoline; and

(C) has lower lifecycle greenhouse gas emissions than conventional gasoline.

In section 102, strike paragraph (6) (as so redesignated) and insert the following:

(6) RENEWABLE FUEL.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—The term "renewable fuel" means motor vehicle fuel, boiler fuel, or home heating fuel that is—

(i) produced from renewable biomass; and

(ii) used to replace or reduce the quantity of fossil fuel present in a fuel or fuel mixture used to operate a motor vehicle, boiler, or furnace.

(B) INCLUSION.—The term "renewable fuel" includes—

(i) conventional biofuel;

(ii) advanced biofuel; and

(iii) clean fuel.

In section 111(a)(1)(B)(i)(II), insert "(other than clean fuels)" after "renewable fuels".

Mr. CORKER. Mr. President, if we are serious about energy security and reducing our dependence on foreign oil and our consumption of gasoline, we have to, through our energy legislation, encourage a variety of fuels and technologies. Current law requires 5.4 billion gallons of renewable fuel in 2008, and 7.5 billion gallons in 2012. The underlying bill on the floor today increases the amount to 8.5 billion gallons in 2008 and 36 billion gallons by the year 2022.

The underlying bill focuses on renewable fuels, including ethanol from corn and cellulosic ethanol, and I think that is outstanding. I am so proud the State of Tennessee is going to be playing a very large role in our country meeting those objectives.

The amendment I am offering expands the renewable fuel standard by adding a clean fuel definition so any fuel meeting criteria may be a part of the 36 billion gallon mandate. It does not in any way strike or replace the underlying fuels that qualify.

To qualify as a clean fuel under this amendment, a fuel must meet the following requirements: not be derived from crude oil, and achieve life cycle greenhouse gas emission reductions that are better than the life cycle greenhouse gas emissions of conventional gasoline.

In addition, on top of what I just said, it must meet one of the following requirements: achieve a life cycle emission reduction compared with conventional gasoline of two or more criteria pollutants. Those pollutants include sulfur dioxide, nitrogen oxides, carbon monoxide, volatile organic compounds, and particulate matter with a diameter smaller than 10 microns; and achieve a life cycle greenhouse gas emission reduction of 20 percent compared to conventional gasoline.

Under no circumstances per this amendment can a fuel qualify if its greenhouse gas emissions are not less than conventional gasoline and if it is derived from crude oil. In other words, crude oil products do not qualify and the life cycle greenhouse gas emissions have to be less than conventional gasoline.

In addition, a clean fuel may participate in the advanced biofuels carve-out beginning in 2016 if it meets the following requirements: not derived from crude oil, achieves a life cycle emission reduction compared to conventional gasoline of two or more criteria pollutants including sulfur dioxide, nitrogen oxides, carbon monoxide, volatile organic compounds, and particulate matter with a diameter smaller than 10 microns and, the other hurdle, achieves life cycle greenhouse gas emission reductions of 20 percent compared to conventional gasoline.

We have a number of technologies that are being pursued today that could meet the solutions our country needs to pursue. While I am a tremendous fan of much of what is happening right now with ethanol—again the

State of Tennessee playing a big role—we need to allow the entrepreneurs in our country to help us solve this problem of dependence on oil from foreign sources, especially those that are not friendly to our country. For that reason, ethanol should not be our only solution. What we should try to do as a body is not to pick winners and losers. What we should do is set standards and allow the market to meet those standards.

We have, again, tremendous initiatives going throughout our country. What we need to do in the Senate is not to define too narrowly what we want to help us be less dependent on foreign oil. If we do that, we will continue to consume more and more gasoline. My amendment is focused on making sure we continue to pursue energy security, that we allow our gross domestic product to grow, and we harness that great entrepreneurialism that exists throughout our country; that we do everything we can to lower greenhouse gas emissions and other criteria pollutants that also create tremendous damage to people throughout our country. I think this amendment does that.

I ask my fellow Senators to endorse this particular amendment.

I notice at this point, after offering this amendment, there is an absence of a quorum, and I wish to set aside my amendment.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. McCONNELL. I ask unanimous consent I be allowed to proceed for a few moments in morning business.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

THE DEATH OF RUTH BELL GRAHAM

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I would like to say a word about the passing yesterday of a great woman.

As a child, Ruth Bell dreamed of surrendering her life to missionary work abroad. Then she gave up that dream so someone else could live it in her place. In this and in so many other quiet sacrifices, Ruth Bell Graham truly lived the life her husband preached.

She inspired generations of men and women with her honest, wise, and faith-filled writings. And she inspired us again at the end by accepting with serenity the physical suffering of a long and painful illness.

Her autobiography told the story of an ordinary woman struggling to raise a family while her famous husband wandered the world preaching to a thousand roaring crowds. But, as she said, "I'd rather have a little bit of Bill than a lot of any other man."

Looking back last night on more than 60 years of marriage, Billy Graham remembered his wife with a thankful heart. "I am so grateful to the Lord that he gave me Ruth," he said. As America says goodbye to the First Lady of Evangelical Christianity, we make those words our own.

Like the Biblical heroine whose name she shared, Ruth Bell Graham followed her pilgrim's journey wherever it took her. As a mother, a counselor, and the indispensable confidant of the world's most famous preacher, she was always content to stay in the background. Her missionary field was her home. And in this, she was a powerful witness of the Gospel she loved.

We are grateful for her faithfulness. And we mourn with the Graham family—Billy, Franklin, Nelson, Virginia, Anne, and Ruth—at the loss of this good and faithful servant.

Mr. CARDIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent to lay the pending amendment aside.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

AMENDMENT NO. 1520 TO AMENDMENT NO. 1502

Mr. CARDIN. I call up amendment No. 1520 and ask for its immediate consideration.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will report.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

The Senator from Maryland [Mr. CARDIN] proposes an amendment numbered 1520 to amendment No. 1502.

Mr. CARDIN. I ask unanimous consent the reading of the amendment be dispensed with.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The amendment is as follows:

(Purpose: To promote the energy independence of the United States)

At the end of subtitle D of title II, add the following:

SEC. 255. SUPPORT FOR ENERGY INDEPENDENCE OF THE UNITED STATES.

It is the policy of the United States to provide support for projects and activities to facilitate the energy independence of the United States so as to ensure that all but 10 percent of the energy needs of the United States are supplied by domestic energy sources by calendar year 2017.

SEC. 256. ENERGY POLICY COMMISSION.

(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—There is established a commission, to be known as the "National Commission on Energy Independence" (referred to in this section as the "Commission").

(2) MEMBERSHIP.—The Commission shall be composed of 15 members, of whom—

(A) 3 shall be appointed by the President;

(B) 3 shall be appointed by the majority leader of the Senate;

(C) 3 shall be appointed by the minority leader of the Senate;

(D) 3 shall be appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives; and

(E) 3 shall be appointed by the minority leader of the House of Representatives.

(3) CO-CHAIRPERSONS.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—The President shall designate 2 co-chairpersons from among the members of the Commission appointed.

(B) POLITICAL AFFILIATION.—The co-chairpersons designated under subparagraph (A) shall not both be affiliated with the same political party.

(4) DEADLINE FOR APPOINTMENT.—Members of the Commission shall be appointed not later than 90 days after the date of enactment of this Act.

(5) TERM; VACANCIES.—

(A) TERM.—A member of the Commission shall be appointed for the life of the Commission.

(B) VACANCIES.—Any vacancy in the Commission—

(i) shall not affect the powers of the Commission; and

(ii) shall be filled in the same manner as the original appointment.

(b) PURPOSE.—The Commission shall conduct a comprehensive review of the energy policy of the United States by—

(1) reviewing relevant analyses of the current and long-term energy policy of, and conditions in, the United States;

(2) identifying problems that may threaten the achievement by the United States of long-term energy policy goals, including energy independence;

(3) analyzing potential solutions to problems that threaten the long-term ability of the United States to achieve those energy policy goals; and

(4) providing recommendations that will ensure, to the maximum extent practicable, that the energy policy goals of the United States are achieved.

(c) REPORT AND RECOMMENDATIONS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than December 31 of each of calendar years 2009, 2011, 2013, and 2015, the Commission shall submit to Congress and the President a report on the progress of United States in meeting the long-term energy policy goal of energy independence, including a detailed statement of the findings, conclusions, and recommendations of the Commission.

(2) LEGISLATIVE LANGUAGE.—If a recommendation submitted under paragraph (1) involves legislative action, the report shall include proposed legislative language to carry out the action.

(d) COMMISSION PERSONNEL MATTERS.—

(1) STAFF AND DIRECTOR.—The Commission shall have a staff headed by an Executive Director.

(2) STAFF APPOINTMENT.—The Executive Director may appoint such personnel as the Executive Director and the Commission determine to be appropriate.

(3) EXPERTS AND CONSULTANTS.—With the approval of the Commission, the Executive Director may procure temporary and intermittent services under section 3109(b) of title 5, United States Code.

(4) FEDERAL AGENCIES.—

(A) DETAIL OF GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES.—

(i) IN GENERAL.—Upon the request of the Commission, the head of any Federal agency may detail, without reimbursement, any of the personnel of the Federal agency to the Commission to assist in carrying out the duties of the Commission.

(ii) NATURE OF DETAIL.—Any detail of a Federal employee under clause (i) shall not interrupt or otherwise affect the civil service status or privileges of the Federal employee.

(B) TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE.—Upon the request of the Commission, the head of a Federal agency shall provide such technical assistance to the Commission as the Commission determines to be necessary to carry out the duties of the Commission.

(e) RESOURCES.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Commission shall have reasonable access to materials, resources, statistical data, and such other information from Executive agencies as the Commission determines to be necessary to carry out the duties of the Commission.

(2) FORM OF REQUESTS.—The co-chairpersons of the Commission shall make requests for access described in paragraph (1) in writing, as necessary.

Mr. CARDIN. Mr. President, so many of my colleagues on both sides of the aisle have come to this floor to talk about the need for this Nation to become energy independent. In fact, I think each Member of this body believes this country should be energy independent and can become energy independent. We need to be independent for many reasons.

First and foremost is the issue of national security. We should not be dependent for oil upon some country halfway around the world that disagrees with our foreign policy, which affects what we can do internationally. We should be independent for national security reasons.

We should also be energy independent for economic reasons. Yesterday in the Small Business Committee we held a hearing on the impact that increased gasoline prices are having on small businesses in our communities. It is having an impact on our entire economy. Again, the OPEC countries decide what the price of oil will be and it affects gasoline prices, energy prices, and our economy. We need to become energy independent for the economic security of America.

Yes, we need to become energy independent for environment issues. Global climate change is a real danger to this country and we need to have an energy policy that will also make us friendlier toward our environment.

For all these reasons we need to become energy independent. We are not today. We import from other countries over one-third of our energy needs in this country and, of course, a significant amount of that is oil. I believe we can become energy independent in 10 years. I think, if we have the national will and the energy policies, it can be accomplished.

The amendment I sent before this body today sets as our goal producing 90 percent of our energy needs by the year 2017. Each of us has ideas as to how to achieve energy independence. There have been many good suggestions that have been brought forward by my colleagues. I have introduced legislation that would require the Federal Government to construct its buildings to LEED Silver standards. Buildings represent one-third of the energy use in this country. Mr. President, 38 percent of the carbon dioxide emissions come from buildings. That, of course, is the major greenhouse gas. Federal buildings consume 40 percent of the Federal Government's energy bill, \$3.73 billion in 2002. The GSA is already using LEED standards in encouraging Federal construction, but all new Federal facilities should meet these new LEED Silver standards.

I ask my colleagues to go down the road here a couple of miles to the new NOAA facility located in Suitland, MD, and see the type of construction we should be building that gives our Federal Government the necessary facility to conduct its business but also is one that will save us a considerable amount of energy.

LEED-certified buildings use 32 percent less energy, 26 percent less natural gas, and 36 percent total less energy used. I mention that because that is just one way this Nation can move toward energy independence.

We know we will be having a debate on the Senate floor next week on the CAFE standards, on the efficiencies of our automobile and light truck engines. Yes, efficiency can save us a lot of energy and can help make us energy independent.

Let me mention another example, the automobile tires we use. If we used the right tires, we could save millions of barrels of gasoline every year. Public transit, I can tell you in my own State, the Purple Line is not only needed to get people from one place to the other in this region, it will save us considerable energy. Investment in public transit will help with efficiency in this country. We need to develop alternative and renewable energy sources. There are so many potentials.

Solar power. We invented the ability to use solar power for energy. The technologies have come from America. BP Solar, which is located in Fredrick, MD, is a leading example of what we can do. But we do not use solar energy anywhere near as much as we should in this country.

Wind is available, but we do not use that technology as much as we should. Cellulosic ethanol or gasoline is another major potential source for becoming energy independent.

Biodiesel. We have a person from the eastern shore, Berlin, MD, who has a biodiesel plant. And that county, Worcester County, uses their fleet of diesel trucks and the biodiesel saving us energy. So alternatives and renewable sources can help us.

We also need to fund new technology for developing clean-burning coal and the next generation of nuclear power and the use of hydrogen power. I mention that because these are the discussions we are having on the floor of this body, ways in which we can become energy independent by being more efficient in the use of energy, by developing alternative and renewable energy sources and putting our resources into research for the next generation of technology to meet our energy needs.

So what does my amendment do? My amendment establishes a commission to monitor our program and to keep us on track to accomplish our goal, to be energy independent by 2017. It allows for midcourse adjustments by the commission, making recommendations on a 2-year cycle, so we can make those cycles of adjustments. We keep control, the Congress keeps control of the

energy policies of the country. But we have a bipartisan way in which we can make sure we live up to our commitment to be energy independent in 10 years.

If our constituents know we are going to accomplish this goal, they are going to be willing to do what is necessary so we achieve this energy independence. It maintains the responsibility of this body and the other body across the hall. It is our Apollo commitment. I have heard more Senators use that term, "Apollo commitment." It is our Apollo commitment.

It took us 10 years. We made that commitment to put a person on the Moon, and we succeeded. If we make the commitment today to be energy independent in 10 years, we can achieve that goal. That is what this amendment does. I hope it will not be a controversial amendment. I hope we can get it done so we put into this legislation our commitment to truly become energy independent.

Mr. President, I have a second amendment I want to call up. I want to make sure there is—I know there is a protocol of alternating amendments. If there is no objection, I was going to ask unanimous consent—I see that the Senator from New Mexico is here.

Let me make sure. I have a second amendment I wanted to call up. I know we are alternating.

Mr. DOMENICI. We will be ready with ours in just 1 minute. We will offer one. We would object.

Mr. CARDIN. Mr. President, I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. DOMENICI. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. DOMENICI. First, let me say to my friend from Maryland, if you will wait a minute, you do not even have to leave the floor. It will not take very long.

Mr. President, I ask the pending amendment be set aside so I might call up the Thune amendment, which we have agreed to.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

AMENDMENT NO. 1609 TO AMENDMENT NO. 1502

Mr. DOMENICI. Mr. President, I send to the desk amendment No. 1609 on behalf of Senator THUNE and ask for its immediate consideration.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will report the amendment.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

The Senator from New Mexico [Mr. DOMENICI], for Mr. THUNE, proposes an amendment numbered 1609 to amendment No. 1502.

Mr. DOMENICI. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent the reading of the amendment be dispensed with.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The amendment is as follows:

(Purpose: To provide requirements for the designation of national interest electric transmission corridors)

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. _____. CLEAN ENERGY CORRIDORS.

Section 216 of the Federal Power Act (16 U.S.C. 824p) is amended—

(1) in subsection (a)—

(A) by striking “(1) Not later than” and inserting the following:

“(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than”;

(B) by striking paragraph (2) and inserting the following:

“(2) REPORT AND DESIGNATIONS.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—After considering alternatives and recommendations from interested parties (including an opportunity for comment from affected States), the Secretary shall issue a report, based on the study conducted under paragraph (1), in which the Secretary may designate as a national interest electric transmission corridor any geographic area experiencing electric energy transmission capacity constraints or congestion that adversely affects consumers, including constraints or congestion that—

“(i) increases costs to consumers;

“(ii) limits resource options to serve load growth; or

“(iii) limits access to sources of clean energy, such as wind, solar energy, geothermal energy, and biomass.

“(B) ADDITIONAL DESIGNATIONS.—In addition to the corridor designations made under subparagraph (A), the Secretary may designate additional corridors in accordance with that subparagraph upon the application by an interested person, on the condition that the Secretary provides for an opportunity for notice and comment by interested persons and affected States on the application.”;

(C) in paragraph (3), the striking “(3) The Secretary” and inserting the following:

“(3) CONSULTATION.—The Secretary”; and

(D) in paragraph (4)—

(i) by striking “(4) In determining” and inserting the following:

“(4) BASIS FOR DETERMINATION.—In determining”; and

(ii) by striking subparagraphs (A) through (E) and inserting the following:

“(A) the economic vitality and development of the corridor, or the end markets served by the corridor, may be constrained by lack of adequate or reasonably priced electricity;

“(B)(i) economic growth in the corridor, or the end markets served by the corridor, may be jeopardized by reliance on limited sources of energy; and

“(ii) a diversification of supply is warranted;

“(C) the energy independence of the United States would be served by the designation;

“(D) the designation would be in the interest of national energy policy; and

“(E) the designation would enhance national defense and homeland security.”;

(2) by adding at the end the following:

“(1) RATES AND RECOVERY OF COSTS.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this subsection, the Commission shall promulgate regulations providing for the allocation and recovery of costs prudently incurred by public utilities in building and operating facilities authorized under this section for transmission of electric energy generated from clean sources (such as wind, solar energy, geothermal energy, and biomass).

“(2) APPLICABLE PROVISIONS.—All rates approved under the regulations promulgated under paragraph (1), including any revisions to the regulations, shall be subject to the requirements under sections 205 and 206 that all rates, charges, terms, and conditions be just and reasonable and not unduly discriminatory or preferential.”.

Mr. DOMENICI. Mr. President, having presented the amendment, I now ask that the Thune amendment be set aside so the next amendment may be offered by the Senator from Maryland.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The Senator from Maryland is recognized.

Mr. CARDIN. Mr. President, I send to the desk an amendment and ask for its immediate consideration.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will report the amendment.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

The Senator from Maryland [Mr. CARDIN], for himself, Ms. MIKULSKI, Mr. DODD, Mr. KERRY, Mr. REED, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, and Ms. SNOWE, proposes an amendment numbered 1610 to amendment No. 1502.

Mr. CARDIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent the reading of the amendment be dispensed with.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The amendment is as follows:

(Purpose: To provide for the siting, construction, expansion, and operation of liquefied natural gas terminals)

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. _____. SITING, CONSTRUCTION, EXPANSION, AND OPERATION OF LNG TERMINALS.

Section 10 of the Act of March 3, 1899 (33 U.S.C. 403), is amended—

(1) by striking the section designation and all that follows through “creation” and inserting the following:

“SEC. 10. OBSTRUCTION OF NAVIGABLE WATERS; WHARVES AND PIERS; EXCAVATIONS AND FILLING IN.

“(a) IN GENERAL.—The creation”; and

(2) by adding at the end the following:

“(b) SITING, CONSTRUCTION, EXPANSION, AND OPERATION OF LNG TERMINALS.—

“(1) DEFINITION OF AFFECTED STATE.—In this subsection, the term ‘affected State’ means, with respect to a liquefied natural gas terminal that is the subject of an application for an authorization under this section, a State that—

“(A) would be directly connected by a pipeline to the liquefied natural gas terminal;

“(B) would be located within 15 miles of the liquefied natural gas terminal; or

“(C) is designated as an affected State by the Secretary due to a risk of damage to the coastal environment of the affected State that is equal to or greater than the risk of damage to the coastal environment of the State in which the liquefied natural gas terminal is proposed to be located.

“(2) LIMITATION.—The Secretary shall not approve or disapprove an application for an authorization under this section for the siting, construction, expansion, or operation of a liquefied natural gas terminal pursuant to this section without the express concurrence of the Governor of each affected State.”.

Mr. CARDIN. Mr. President, this amendment I am introducing with Senators MIKULSKI, DODD, REED, KENNEDY, WHITEHOUSE, and SNOWE would restore the authority of State and local governments to protect the environment and ensure public safety with respect to the siting of liquefied natural gas, LNG, terminals within their States.

This measure simply gives our States a say in whether these kinds of facilities should be built within their boundaries and, if so, the exact location.

The amendment adds a provision to the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899. Under that law, the Army Corps of Engineers, acting for the Secretary of the Army, is responsible for issuing permits to anyone who wants to build a structure in and above the waters of the United States. These are often called section 10 permits because that is where the provision is found in the Rivers and Harbors Act.

Currently, the Army Corps issues all such permits. In the narrow conditions outlined in our amendment, the Corps would have to get the concurrence of the affected State before issuing a permit to build an LNG terminal. That is all, just work with the States. It is just federalism. That is what federalism is all about, the Federal Government working with the States. The States certainly have a direct interest on the siting of LNG plants.

This amendment does not limit the Federal Regulatory Energy Commission, FERC. FERC will still be able to make its decisions regarding siting, construction, and operation of LNG facilities. FERC has that blanket authority. So be it. But the Army Corps of Engineers also has a say in whether such a facility can be built in the waters of the United States. Today we turn to the Corps for relief.

In recent years, the LNG industry has proposed building dozens of new LNG terminals throughout the United States, as LNG's share of the natural gas market continues to grow rapidly. Many of these terminals are being planned near populated areas or environmentally sensitive coastal areas. We are simply seeking an opportunity for States to have a meaningful opportunity to take those safety and environmental issues into account.

Maryland is already home of one of the six operating LNG terminals in the United States. This bill would have no effect whatsoever on that facility. In fact, that facility is generally welcomed by its host community and is supported by county and local elected officials. That is how it should be. Companies that want to build an LNG terminal should work with the local community and address all of the safety and security concerns. It can be done. We have the proof of it in the State of Maryland.

This amendment is not designed to stop LNG terminals. It is solely to make sure that such projects are sited properly. Unfortunately, that is not always the case. AES Sparrows Point

LNG and Mid-Atlantic Express have proposed building a new terminal near a densely populated area of Baltimore. Our area congressional delegation, Senator MIKULSKI and I, Governor O'Malley, Baltimore County Executive Jim Smith, and local officials and community leaders believe this project poses unacceptable public safety, economic and environmental risks, and does not serve the public interest.

Yet under current law, FERC now has exclusive authority to approve on-shore LNG terminal siting applications. But these facilities still must obtain environmental permits, including a section 10 permit under the provisions of the Rivers and Harbors Act.

It is vital, in my opinion, that State and local authorities and the public have a meaningful opportunity to participate in the decisionmaking process about where these plants are located. An accident or a terrorist act at an LNG terminal could have a devastating impact on the communities nearby, so they should have a voice in the siting.

The amendment I am introducing today seeks to restore that authority and gives Governors some real clout. The proponents of building LNG terminals should have to negotiate in good faith with States and local communities if they want those communities to bear the risk associated with such operations.

My amendment does not prohibit the construction of LNG terminals. It merely levels the playing field with regard to determining where they will be located. It is what federalism should be all about. We should respect that. This amendment moves us in that direction.

I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting this amendment.

Mr. President, I yield the floor, and I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. NELSON of Florida. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. CARDIN). Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. NELSON of Florida. Mr. President, we are on the Energy bill. It is expected that we are going to have a big fight out here, a political fight, regarding the question of miles per gallon—requirements for the manufactured automobiles, light trucks, and then what are medium-size and heavier trucks—what the miles per gallon requirements are going to be.

A couple weeks ago, I was on an Intelligence Committee trip all through Africa. Needless to say, there is increasing al-Qaida presence in Africa. Indeed, an organization called AQIM—al-Qaida in the Islamic Maghreb—is a group that broke through the barriers of the Presidential palace in Algiers, Algeria, and a suicide bomber detonated a bomb right next to the Presidential palace, injuring and killing

some people, doing damage to the Presidential palace, but the President was not harmed.

What we have is an increasing threat not only to the peoples of Africa but to the interests of the United States. What is one of those interests? One of those interests is all the places from which we get oil. One of those places is the Niger River Delta in the country of Nigeria.

I met with the new President of Nigeria. He had just been inaugurated some 5 days earlier, and I believe he understands the significant threat to Nigeria's oil production. Already a good portion of Nigeria's oil production is siphoned off by bandits and others who are using kidnappings, asking for ransom, tapping into the oil wells, siphoning off the oil and the gas to the point that they produce about 3 million barrels a day of oil, and yet what they are shipping is only about 2.4 million barrels a day. So they are losing right there, off the bat, just to bandits, 600,000 barrels of oil a day, just in that one country.

But that oil that is shipped is shipped to the United States. That oil represents 12 to 14 percent of America's daily consumption. What happens if the terrorists strike and a major part of that oil production is eliminated? Well, you can imagine what America would do if it suddenly had 12 to 14 percent less oil per day.

Oh, by the way, that is not the only place where we are threatened. We are also threatened, indeed, by a fellow named Hugo Chavez, President of Venezuela. Venezuela sends us 12 to 14 percent of our daily consumption of oil. Of course, he has been making those threats as well. But that is little more of an idle threat, in this Senator's opinion, because of the vast infrastructure the Venezuelan oil company PDVSA has through their distribution outlets of Citgo gas stations here in America.

All right, what does this have to do with the Energy bill? It has a lot to do with the Energy bill because one of the primary things we ought to be doing as a matter of Government policy is weaning ourselves from oil and particularly from foreign oil. What is one of the best ways to do that? It is to go to the place where most oil is consumed in America, and that is in the transportation sector. And where in the transportation sector is most of the oil consumed? It is in our personal vehicles.

So if we really want to do something that would affect this ripple effect if al-Qaida struck in a number of very sensitive oil-producing places in Africa, then right here in this Senate, at this moment, considering the Energy bill, we better be serious about what we are doing for miles-per-gallon requirements.

Now, it is almost inexcusable that back when we had the oil embargo in the early 1970s and we said we were going to do something about it, that then we went back to sleep. Then again

we had another disruption of the oil flow in the late 1970s, and we went through the drill again, and we said we were going to do something about it, and we went back to sleep. All of those mileage standards we put into law kept being delayed and excused and sidelined, and here we are where we are, with American automobile companies being some of the worst in dragging their feet, so that higher mileage per gallon has not been achieved, and we find ourselves so dependent on oil and, indeed, so dependent on foreign oil to the tune of 60 percent of our daily consumption of oil is being imported from foreign shores.

So what are we going to do about it? All right, the moment of truth is coming in a few days because we are going to have a chance to enact this bill and what it has in the bill, which is 35 miles per gallon by the year 2020—that is 13 years in the future—35 miles per gallon on cars and light trucks, and then there are some exceptions for medium-size and heavier trucks.

In 13 years, can America go from a standard of somewhere around 26 miles per gallon to 35 miles per gallon? If we have the technology to do some of the extraordinary things we have already done in technology—in energy, in defense, in so many things—do we have the capability, technologically, in 13 years to increase the fleet average to 35 miles per gallon? You bet we do. The question is, Do we have the political will? That is going to be the moment of truth.

Now, there are going to be those who are going to come with a seductive alternative—Senator LEVIN, Senator STABENOW. Their seductive alternative is: Well, we will do the same number of miles per gallon, but we will stretch it out a little bit further. We will make it 2025 instead of 2020.

Do we have the political will to make the decision that the time is now to change our oil-consuming habits so we can lessen our dependence on oil, and specifically foreign oil?

This Senator is going to offer an even tougher standard: 40 miles per gallon. We have the technology. Do we have the political will? I think it is going to be very hard to pass 40 miles per gallon. Senator FEINSTEIN, Senator BINGAMAN, and others came up with what is in the bill now: 35 miles per gallon over the course of the next 13 years. I think it ought to be higher. I think we ought to be serious. I will tell my colleagues, if al-Qaida ever does strike and cut off that oil, this Senate will be in session and we will be exacting much higher standards, because the political will would be demanded at that point. Are we going to look over the horizon and see all of the pitfalls and avoid them by going ahead and enacting into law a stronger standard?

I have had the privilege of representing my State of Florida for the past 7 years in the Senate, and I have tried, along with other Senators, particularly Senator KERRY, to enact

higher mileage per gallon standards on SUVs. We could never get the votes because there wasn't the political will. The clock is ticking and time is running out. It is going to happen because a lot of those oilfields scattered around the world—and I have given one example of Nigeria—are vulnerable to attack. The only way we are going to prevent those attacks is our intelligence apparatus, working with the intelligence services of other nations, to find out in advance so we can prevent it, because they can't defend it there. The military forces of those countries throughout the world are not sufficient to defend it. We are only going to prevent it by finding out about it through the gathering of intelligence. But our intelligence gathering can't be 100 percent foolproof. So the likelihood is it is going to happen.

Let's get prepared, I beg the Senate. We have dragged our feet. We have not produced more than about 39 votes in the past to increase miles per gallon standards on SUVs. Will we wake up, America? Will we have the will? It is coming, and it is going to come about next Tuesday or Wednesday when we vote on these amendments.

Mr. President, I yield the floor.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator from Colorado is recognized.

Mr. SALAZAR. Mr. President, let me congratulate my friend from Florida for his passionate statement on this imperative. As Abraham Lincoln might say, we are trying to give our Nation a new birth of freedom from the oil addiction that is very much compromising the national security of our Nation. Certainly how we deal with transportation fuels and move forward with higher standards and more efficient vehicles is something I hope this body has the political will to do through the underlying bill, which will move us to 35 miles per gallon within a reasonable time period. I very much appreciate his leadership on this effort and I look forward to joining him on this battle next week as we try to move forward.

AMENDMENT NO. 1524 TO AMENDMENT NO. 1502

Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the pending amendment be set aside, and I call up amendment No. 1524.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The clerk will report the amendment.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

The Senator from Colorado [Mr. SALAZAR], for himself, Mr. GRASSLEY, Mr. OBAMA, Mr. HARKIN, Mr. HAGEL, Mr. LUGAR, Mr. LIEBERMAN, Mr. FEINGOLD, Mrs. CLINTON, Mr. CASEY, Mr. BEN NELSON, Mr. BROWNBACK, Mr. KOHL, Mr. KERRY, Mr. JOHNSON, Mr. TESTER, Ms. CANTWELL, Mr. THUNE, and Mr. COCHRAN, proposes an amendment numbered 1524 to amendment No. 1502.

Mr. SALAZAR. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the reading of the amendment be dispensed with.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The amendment is as follows:

AMENDMENT No. 1524

(Purpose: To express the sense of Congress relating to the use of renewable resources to generate energy)

On page 27, after line 23, add the following:

SEC. 113. SENSE OF CONGRESS RELATING TO THE USE OF RENEWABLE RESOURCES TO GENERATE ENERGY.

(a) FINDINGS.—Congress finds that—

(1) the United States has a quantity of renewable energy resources that is sufficient to supply a significant portion of the energy needs of the United States;

(2) the agricultural, forestry, and working land of the United States can help ensure a sustainable domestic energy system;

(3) accelerated development and use of renewable energy technologies provide numerous benefits to the United States, including improved national security, improved balance of payments, healthier rural economies, improved environmental quality, and abundant, reliable, and affordable energy for all citizens of the United States;

(4) the production of transportation fuels from renewable energy would help the United States meet rapidly growing domestic and global energy demands, reduce the dependence of the United States on energy imported from volatile regions of the world that are politically unstable, stabilize the cost and availability of energy, and safeguard the economy and security of the United States;

(5) increased energy production from domestic renewable resources would attract substantial new investments in energy infrastructure, create economic growth, develop new jobs for the citizens of the United States, and increase the income for farm, ranch, and forestry jobs in the rural regions of the United States;

(6) increased use of renewable energy is practical and can be cost effective with the implementation of supportive policies and proper incentives to stimulate markets and infrastructure; and

(7) public policies aimed at enhancing renewable energy production and accelerating technological improvements will further reduce energy costs over time and increase market demand.

(b) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—It is the sense of Congress that it is the goal of the United States that, not later than January 1, 2025, the agricultural, forestry, and working land of the United States should—

(1) provide from renewable resources not less than 25 percent of the total energy consumed in the United States; and

(2) continue to produce safe, abundant, and affordable food, feed, and fiber.

Mr. SALAZAR. Mr. President, I rise today to offer the 25x'25 resolution as an amendment to H.R. 6, the Energy bill. I am proud to be joined in this endeavor by a broad bipartisan group of Senators. They include Senators GRASSLEY, HARKIN, LUGAR, OBAMA, HAGEL, CLINTON, FEINGOLD, CASEY, NELSON of Nebraska, BROWNBACK, KOHL, KERRY, JOHNSON, TESTER, CANTWELL, THUNE, and COCHRAN, all of whom are sponsors of S. Con. Res. 3, which we introduced earlier this year.

Mr. President, 25x'25 is a critical vision for our energy future that will help reduce our dependence on foreign oil by building a new energy economy here at home. Our amendment establishes a national goal of producing 25 percent of America's energy from renewable sources, such as solar, wind, and biofuels, by 2025.

The 25x'25 vision is widely endorsed, it is bold, and it is fully attainable. If implemented, it will dramatically improve our energy security, our economy, and our ability to protect the environment and combat global warming. 25x'25 complements the steps we are taking on the bill before us today which reflects the good work of the Energy and Natural Resources Committee and the other committees that have contributed so greatly to this bill.

I am pleased that 17 of my colleagues in the Senate from both sides of the aisle are cosponsoring this resolution. In addition, the 25x'25 vision has been endorsed by 22 current and former Governors and many State legislatures around the country.

The Big Three auto manufacturers—Ford, Chrysler, and General Motors—are all behind 25x'25. So are many agricultural organizations, environmental groups, scientists, and businesses, ranging from the Farmers' Union and the Farm Bureau to the Natural Resources Defense Council, and companies such as John Deere.

The breadth of support for the 25x'25 vision speaks to the extraordinary economic, environmental, and national security benefits that its achievement will yield. In all, nearly 400 organizations have embraced this vision and are working together on a plan to implement it.

The amendment I am introducing makes the 25x'25 vision a policy goal for our Nation. It sets a challenging but realistic target for our legislative and budgetary work on energy. Our amendment says the ingenuity and entrepreneurship of the American people should be the engine for a new, clean energy economy for the 21st century.

I urge every American to join with me and roughly 400 partner organizations that are part of 25x'25 to make this goal a reality. Results from a recent study conducted by the University of Tennessee show that reaching the 25x'25 goal is, indeed, achievable. The study also shows that 25x'25 would do the following: First, it would increase net farm income in America by \$180 billion and, including multiplier effects, could result in \$700 billion in economic activity annually for America. Secondly, it would create 5 million new jobs here at home by 2025; and third, it would save as much as \$15 billion in Government payments across America.

America's working people can and should be at the center of our energy revolution. Farmers and ranchers in my native San Luis Valley, in Sterling, CO, and elsewhere, are already leading the way. They are building biodiesel plants and ethanol refineries that help power cars, tractors, and trucks. They are building wind turbines in Prowers County and biomass generators in Jackson County, and they are searching for new technologies that will allow them to make even greater contributions to our energy supply. These Americans understand we cannot continue to import 60 percent of our oil

from foreign countries, many of which are hostile to the United States. If we aim to be strong and secure in this world, we must have this kind of bold vision. They know we will have to build a clean energy economy for America if we are to reduce our dependence on foreign oil.

A clean energy economy will take root in our farms and in our fields. It will help revitalize a rural America that has been forgotten for far too long. It will spur our engineers to new developments and designs, and it will help establish the United States as a world leader in clean energy technologies. It is time for Congress to take a more active role in our clean energy future. Establishing a national goal of 25x'25 is an important first step.

Americans understand we cannot continue to import 60 percent of our oil from foreign countries, many of which are hostile to the United States, if we aim to be strong and secure in the world. We must rid ourselves of this dependency and this addiction. They know we will have to build a clean energy economy if we are to reduce our dependence on foreign oil.

Today, with this amendment, we are articulating a common vision for our energy policy. It is a target that Governors, Senators, Representatives, State legislators, farmers, ranchers, business people, scientists, and automakers all wish to achieve. It is a target we can hit, particularly with the policies that are built into this bill.

I ask my Democratic and Republican colleagues to support this amendment and to join the millions of Americans who are already working toward the 25x'25 goal.

I want to make a comment about the imperative of the energy issue that is before the Senate today. When I look at the 21st century, I ask myself: What is it the people of my State, and what is it the people of America want me to do as their Senator, not only for our generation but for the next generation and generations to come? It seems to me the challenges of the 21st century are daunting challenges, major challenges, that face us. We can essentially put them into three, and they are all under an umbrella of security for this Nation and ultimately security for civilization.

The first of those challenges is foreign policy: How can we in America move forward and try to put Humpty Dumpty together again when we see so much violence in the Middle East and other places around the world? How can we make sure the dream and vision of the generation of World War II is something we preserve? How can we say to our children and to our grandchildren that the world we are leaving to them is a safer and more secure world? Certainly that generation of World War II believed they had accomplished that, that they were leaving a world which was a much safer and a much more secure world for the generations that would come after them.

Indeed, we have been the beneficiaries of their sacrifices. Over half a million Americans gave their lives to preserve freedom around the world in World War II, including members of my family who gave their lives on the soils of Europe. They had a vision of a more secure world.

We have some major challenges in Iraq, as we witness the violence there, and when we see what is happening today in Lebanon where we are on the precipice of another civil war there, and when we see what is happening in Gaza and Israel where Hamas has now apparently taken over the Gaza Strip and the emergency that we see President Abbas has declared in the Gaza Strip.

We have to somehow figure out this very challenging task of how we put the world back together again. How do we secure the vision the people of America want us to have, which is that we create a safer and more secure world for ourselves and for those generations who will come behind us?

The second issue which, in my view, confronts America today and which is interrelated with some of the violence we see in the Middle East is energy. For far too long we have neglected this issue. I am proud of the fact that in 2005, this body came together in a bipartisan way and we opened a new chapter for energy in America. I am very proud of this bill today because it builds on that chapter that gets us to energy independence. We have to look at the failings of America under both Democratic and Republican administrations in the past. Jimmy Carter, Richard Nixon—Richard Nixon first—coined the term “energy independence” when OPEC was formed. President Jimmy Carter spoke to the Nation late one night back in the 1970s and said: We need to deal with energy with the same kind of moral imperative of war.

Yet what happened in the 1980s and the 1990s? The low cost of fuel essentially allowed America to go to sleep at the switch. The consequence has been that instead of importing 30 percent of our oil as we were in 1970, today we import 60 percent of our oil. The consequence is we have compromised the national security of the United States.

I have been on the border of Israel and Lebanon and looked down at the camps of Hamas and the daunting signs of Hezbollah where Hezbollah had captured at that time Israeli soldiers, and they were at that time daring Prime Minister Sharon to go into southern Lebanon.

What is it that creates that kind of condition? What is it that allows Hezbollah to have over 37,000 rockets in their armory? What is it that allows the funding and the creation of a militia of more than 10,000 militant soldiers within the Hezbollah organization? It is the oil. It is the oil revenue that is going into some countries in the Middle East, including Iran, that is

directly funding those interests who are fighting the interests of America across the world.

In fact, we have gotten to the position where those interests have become so powerful economically that now with the potential of Iran arming itself with nuclear capabilities, we should all be very concerned about the security not only of Israel but also of the Middle East and of our entire world.

What does Iran with nuclear armaments mean to the national security of our world? It is a fact that it is our energy dependence, the glutton nature of our energy dependence on oil from those countries that has compromised our national security.

So when we work on the energy issue of our country, we need to know we are working on an imperative of the 21st century. It is an imperative of the 21st century that we get ourselves rid of this addiction to foreign oil. That is why we see progressives and conservatives coming together, Democrats and Republicans coming together, to try to tackle this issue.

Much of what we have in this legislation before the Senate comes from the efforts of the energy futures coalition that coined the term “set America free.” “Set America free.” Our passage of this legislation, hopefully this next week, will be part of that achievement where we as Senators will stand and we will say we have taken another bold step in this agenda of setting America free.

A second issue that obviously confronts the people of America is health care. That is an issue for another day. That is an issue we will be dealing with as we look at health insurance for children and a whole host of other issues. But today and next week, we have an opportunity to deliver on one of the imperatives of the 21st century for the United States of America, and that imperative is that we move forward with courage and with boldness on the vision of energy independence.

Our amendment today on 20x'25 is a critical part of that agenda because it sets forth a vision that is an achievable one that will get us to make sure we are producing 25 percent of our energy from renewable resources by the year 2025.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. SALAZAR. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. SALAZAR. Mr. President, I understand the amendment I spoke about is acceptable to both sides. Therefore, I ask for a voice vote on the amendment.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Is there further debate? If not, the question is on agreeing to amendment No. 1524.

The amendment (No. 1524) was agreed to.

Mr. SALAZAR. Mr. President, I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. DORGAN. I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

IMMIGRATION

Mr. DORGAN. Mr. President, I wish to comment on a couple of issues dealing with the Energy bill this morning. We will be back on the Energy bill starting on Monday. Before I do, I wish to mention as well the Washington Post column by Robert Novak yesterday entitled "Dorgan's Poison Pill." Mr. Novak once again stops just about a page or two short of good research. He has the opportunity on the op-ed page of a major paper to make his case, and we are so seldom offered that same opportunity by the Washington Post that I thought I would at least use the floor of the Senate to describe accurately what Mr. Novak was trying to write about.

He talks about an amendment I offered to the immigration bill. He calls it a "poison pill" in the title, and then he says: Dorgan pushed his "killer amendment" by voicing the Great Plains populism of his own State. That is sort of sniffing down your nose at the Great Plains populism that exists in some parts of this country.

Let me describe what this amendment was. The immigration bill is a bill that is complicated, it is controversial, it is a very large bill, and it has a lot of moving parts to it. One part of the bill deals with the issue of bringing in guest workers—people who aren't now here, who are living elsewhere in other parts of the world—bringing them in to take American jobs.

Now, I have great difficulty with the immigration bill as it is written. My feeling about immigration is we have a problem with illegal immigration. That is true, we certainly do, and we ought to try to address that problem. I think the first way and the thoughtful way to address that problem is to decide we are going to provide border security and border enforcement—just do first things first. First of all, provide border enforcement, and then we can do the other things.

That is not what this bill does. This bill brings in about six or eight moving parts, and in order to sign up support for it—for example, in order to get the U.S. Chamber of Commerce to support it, they also include a temporary or guest worker program that says we have people who are not now in this country whom we want to bring into this country to take American jobs because we don't have enough American workers, they claim.

In fact, they put together this Byzantine approach that says guest workers will come in, they will be able to bring their family with them and stay for 2 years. They have to go home for 1 year, take their family home, and then they can come back for 2 more years, then go home for 1 year and come back for 2 more years. So they can be here a total of 6 years, with 2 years gone, and their family with them their first or second tour. And by the way, no one knows whether they are going to go home once they get here. Who is going to keep track of people coming in three times in 6 years for 2-year periods each of the three occasions?

I offered an amendment on that particular issue of guest and temporary workers who would come in to take these jobs. My amendment was very simple. It said: Let's sunset that provision after 5 years and try to understand what has happened as a result of it, what has happened to American workers as a result of bringing in all these temporary workers. Is there downward pressure on American wages? Has this hurt American workers? My guess is it will. What if 80 percent of the people who come in under the temporary worker program never leave? Then they are here as illegal immigrants. Maybe that ought to matter. Maybe we should sunset this in 5 years and take a look at it.

That was my amendment. It passed by one vote on the floor of the Senate and is described by Mr. Novak as the "poison pill," the "killer amendment." That is unbelievable. I know where he got the language. He got the language from my colleagues here who were part of the "grand bargain"—a group of 14, I think it was, who went into a room, reached a grand bargain putting together this Byzantine immigration bill, brought it to the floor, and behaved as if they were the only people out of 100 Senators who had any ideas. There are 14 of us who have this idea, they believed, and anybody who offers amendments would not have an idea that would be worthy of improving it; therefore, we must resist and oppose all amendments.

That is the way this immigration bill went on the floor of the Senate. But it was not a poison pill or a killer amendment or anything of the sort. It was a kind of commonsense approach to try to say: Why don't we do this the right way?

Mr. Novak points to my colleague, Senator KYL from Arizona, in his column. It is interesting. Mr. KYL was part of the grand compromise and, of course, described my amendment. I think, as a "poison pill." Mr. KYL voted for the identical amendment 1 year ago. I offered the identical amendment 1 year ago, and Senator KYL voted for it then.

But those are just facts that Mr. Novak missed because, as I said, when you stop one page short of good research, you are not going to have the entire story.

ENERGY

Mr. President, let me now talk just a bit about the Energy bill. This is important.

We live on this little old planet, we circle the Sun, and we have about 6.4 billion neighbors. We live in this little portion of the planet called the United States, and we have built an economy that is extraordinary. We have expanded the middle class, created an economic engine that is almost unparalleled on this Earth.

In this planet we stick little straws and suck out oil. We suck out about 84 to 85 million barrels of oil every single day. One-fourth of that oil must come to the United States and be used here because we need it. We use one-fourth of all the oil every day that is pulled out of this earth, and 60 percent of the oil we use in this country comes from outside of our country. So we use one-fourth of the oil on the Earth every day, and over 60 percent of it comes from elsewhere. It comes from the Saudis—Saudi Arabia—Kuwait, Iraq, and Venezuela. Some troubled parts of the world—very troubled parts of the world—produce a substantial portion of the oil we need for our economy to work. If, God forbid, one morning we woke up and terrorists had interrupted the pipeline of oil to our country from troubled parts of the world, our economy would be flat on its back, and that is reason we have an energy bill on the floor of the Senate.

I think this is the first time we have debated the Energy bill in which we have come to an intersection in understanding that energy and climate change are intertwined, energy and climate change meet at the same intersection.

So we discuss all of these things. We discuss renewable electricity standards. Should we require that 15 percent of all electricity produced in this country be produced with renewable energy—wind energy, biomass, geothermal, solar energy? I believe the answer is yes. I feel very strongly about that. We will have a vote on that next week, and I think it will be very close.

Standards that would increase the efficiency of automobiles, we will have a vote on that, and it will be very close. We haven't had a change in the CAFE standards for automobiles for 25 years—25 years. Everything else about an automobile has changed. There is more computing power in a new automobile than there was on the lunar landing that put Neil Armstrong on the surface of the Moon. There is more computing power in one new car than was in the lunar landing. Everything has changed—cup holders, music systems, keyless entry—everything has changed about these vehicles except efficiency.

My wife purchased an automobile some years ago. She purchased an automobile that had a certain mileage standard on the window sticker. After 10 years, she was going to buy another car, and she looked at the new version,

the new car version of exactly what she purchased 10 years earlier. The mileage standard on the new car, 10 years later, was identical to the mileage standard of the car she had purchased, identical. Everything about the car had changed—the color, the look, I am sure the springs, the suspension—almost everything was changed, and it has cup holders and a better music system and keyless entry.

By the way, all those car companies opposed seatbelts and airbags and have always opposed CAFE standards.

But the point is, regarding efficiency, nothing is changing. So the question is this: If we are consuming all of this oil—much of it from troubled parts of the world—because we have such an oil-intensive economy and we want to be less dependent on the Saudis, Kuwaitis, and others, and 70 percent of our oil is used in vehicles, then don't we have to insist that this change and that vehicles become more efficient?

The automobile industry is doing full-page newspaper ads in my State—and I assume other States as well—telling people things about the proposal on the floor of the Senate that just aren't true—just not so. I think it was Will Rogers who said:

It is not what he knows that bothers me so much, it's what he says he knows for sure that just ain't so.

Well, some of the advertising that is going on around the country is just wrong. They have these screaming ads saying somebody is going to take your pickup truck away. It is not true. The new CAFE standards—or any efficiency standards—aren't like the old ones where if you produce too many pickup trucks, you have to cut back on pickup trucks and produce far more subcompacts. That is not the case.

These new approaches say that for every class of vehicle—and there are eight, including the big, heavy trucks—every class of vehicle must have efficiency. You must have increased efficiency for each class, not measured against another class. You must have increased efficiency in that class, and, yes, that includes pickup trucks. But those who are buying pickup trucks—and a lot of people are—ought to expect more efficiency. It is not a case where someone is going to say that you are not going to be able to find a pickup because we have to produce more subcompacts.

In my part of the country, it does occasionally—only on rare occasions—get cold. In North Dakota, when a rancher is going out in late March, and there is a blizzard and the wind is blowing 40 miles an hour and the temperature is 30 below, and he or she is out checking on the calves because it is calving season and they are trying to figure out what is going on—they don't want to go out in 40-mile-an-hour winds, with temperatures 30 below; that rarely happens, but occasionally—they do not want to go out driving in a Chevette or some subcompact car trying to figure out where they are going to move in

the pasture to find those cattle. They want a substantial vehicle. So they want four-wheel drives and pickup trucks, and I understand that. That is why this CAFE or this automobile efficiency standard has been changed and changed in the right way, requiring all classes of vehicles to be more efficient. We don't measure them against other classes. Every class is required to meet greater efficiency standards.

So that will be debated next week. I know there are people who will come and oppose it because the automobile industry is taking a position of: Yesterday forever; let's just keep doing what we have been doing, and that will be just fine. It is not just fine as a matter of public policy for this country. This country needs a changed agenda with respect to energy, and part of that changed agenda is increased efficiency for automobiles and for vehicles.

With respect to the renewable energy standard, the renewable electricity standard, I regret and I have said from time to time that my political party—we are not as good at developing titles and labels as the other party. No matter what they come up with, they are good. They come up with something that is probably going to even cause more pollution, and they call it Clear Skies. They come up with something that will cut down trees, and they call it Healthy Forests. They are good at labeling.

We come up with something called renewable portfolio standard. We talk like twits. So we need to improve that. I call it homegrown energy or renewable electricity standards.

Let me describe what that means. It means we produce a lot of electricity, and we use it. We get up in the morning and the first thing we do is turn on a switch and that switch makes all things possible for us. It allows you to get hot water from a hot water heater, it allows you to plug in an electric razor, allows you to have the lights in your bathroom as you get ready for work. All of these things happen, but it is not automatic. Somebody is out there producing electricity in a coal-fired generating plant perhaps, or a generating plant that is fueled by natural gas.

What we are saying is, we want to set a standard of 15 percent of our electric energy to be produced with renewable energy. We now have unbelievable turbines that can take energy from the wind and turn it into electricity. Yes, you can advance your electricity issue with that or, an experiment I have in North Dakota that I am very excited about, you can take the energy from the wind, produce electricity, and with that electricity in the process of electrolysis, separate hydrogen from water and store hydrogen as a vehicle fuel; the wind to hydrogen, all renewable.

You can do the same with respect to the renewable electricity standard by requiring that 15 percent of the electricity we produce comes from biomass, solar energy, wind energy, geo-

thermal, and more. We should do that. I know it is a close vote. I know some oppose that. We should do that because it will advance this country's interests.

I want to make one additional point. There are some who say: You are out here talking about increased efficiency standards, you talk about renewable electricity and so on—what about more production? In fact, I just had a person call me a few minutes ago who said the same thing. What about more production? I believe we ought to have more production of energy. I have supported, along with my colleague, Senator CRAIG from Idaho—bipartisan—the two of us have supported something called the SAFE Act, which proposes and calls for more production from that area offshore that has the greatest potential. No, it is not Alaska, not California; it is the gulf, the Gulf of Mexico that has the greatest potential.

I was one who helped open lease 181, which was just opened. But I believe much more can be done to increase the potential on the Outer Continental Shelf on the Gulf of Mexico. I support that. I filed an amendment—we have not called it up because I don't believe we have the votes for that—but Senator CRAIG and I are discussing that issue. I support increased production because I believe it is a necessary part of a balanced energy strategy.

I think all of these issues are important. I know there are some who probably do not think the Energy bill is as important as it really is, but it is at the root of this country's future economic opportunity. This engine of ours, this economic engine of ours cannot and does not work without energy, and our energy policy has not been a particularly thoughtful policy. We waste a prodigious amount of energy in every way, every day. We can make buildings more efficient, we can make automobiles more efficient, we can make appliances more efficient. We should produce more. We should conserve more. There is so much we should do in energy policy.

Senator BINGAMAN and Senator DOMENICI, who are the chair and ranking member of the Energy Committee—I am a senior member of that committee—but with their leadership they have put together a bill that is now on the Senate floor, and I think it will advance our interests. But we need to do a couple of things.

No. 1, we need to support the CAFE standards. By the way, that comes from the Commerce Committee on which I serve. Senator INOUE and Senator STEVENS are to be complimented for what we were able to do in the Commerce Committee with respect to CAFE standards. Senator BOXER and the leadership of the EPW committee has also contributed to this bill. But we need to have a 15-percent standard of renewable fuels coming with respect to the production of electricity, and we need to support the CAFE standards that have come from the Commerce Committee.

I do not believe there are others who wish to speak. Let me do a couple of unanimous consents.

MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. DORGAN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent there now be a period of morning business with Senators permitted to speak therein up to 10 minutes each.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

REVIEW EXTENSION

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent to have printed in the RECORD a letter from Senator LEVIN to me dated June 15, 2007.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

U.S. SENATE,
COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES,
Washington, DC, June 15, 2007.

Hon. HARRY REID,
Majority Leader, U.S. Senate, Washington, DC.

DEAR SENATOR REID: On June 4, 2007, S. 1538, the Intelligence Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2008, was referred to the Senate Armed Services Committee pursuant to paragraph 3(b) of S. Res. 400 of the 94th Congress, as amended by S. Res. 445 of the 108th Congress. In accordance with that resolution, I now request an additional extension of five days to enable the Committee to complete its review of the bill.

Thank you for your assistance.

Sincerely,

CARL LEVIN,
Chairman.

REMEMBERING SENATOR CRAIG THOMAS

Mr. CRAPO. Mr. President, I was deeply saddened to hear of the sudden passing of my colleague from Wyoming, Senator Craig Thomas. The loss we all feel at his passing Craig is tempered by the happy memories I have of working with him on so many issues of mutual interest. His efforts and his leadership on the panels on which we served together—the Senate Finance Committee, Senate Agriculture Committee, and Senate Environment and Public Works Committee—will remain foremost in my memory. I particularly admired his staunch advocacy for the needs of rural communities and farmers. Craig brought a special passion and expertise to issues affecting ranching families. His focus on their unique needs spanned the trade, economic, environmental, and public lands management issues of rural communities.

Craig brought to Congress his vision for the needs of Wyoming and rural States, and he became a strong advocate of effective resource and energy policies. I am pleased to have partnered with him in applying technologies to improving our Nation's energy generation. Although he lived his life modestly, he became a leader in national park stewardship, and the

American people owe him a debt of gratitude for his promotion of the underserved national parks system. I also appreciated his long and thoughtful counsel on ways to update the Endangered Species Act.

In recent months, Craig took a prime role on the Finance Committee in working to simplify the Federal Tax Code and improve entitlement and health care assistance to the least fortunate. As one who took to heart the importance of protecting the taxpayers' dollars, Craig was a strong proponent of restoring the sustainability of our Nation's welfare system. And Craig understood that economic development in rural States like Wyoming was inextricably linked to trade promotion that ensured open and fair markets abroad. I will miss his stalwart and consistent advocacy for farming communities as the Senate considered trade legislation.

As a man who represented a small State in population, Craig towered large over the landscape of thoughtful conservative Members of Congress. I think a fitting tribute and legacy to our late friend would be to adopt his resolution making July 28, National Day of the Cowboy. My thoughts and prayers are with Craig's family and friends. I will miss my good friend and colleague.

RESPONSIBLE FATHERHOOD AND HEALTHY FAMILIES ACT

Mr. OBAMA. Mr. President, yesterday, just days before Father's Day, I was pleased to join my colleague and good friend Senator BAYH in reintroducing the Responsible Fatherhood and Healthy Families Act. Within the next few days companion legislation will be introduced in the House of Representatives by Congresswoman CARSON of Indiana and my friend from Chicago, Congressman DANNY DAVIS.

It is time to address the crisis of absentee fathers. We must ask ourselves why more than a quarter of all American families have only one parent present, and more than a third live without their father. We must get a handle on why 40 percent of the children in America who live without their father have not seen him in over a year.

There is no question that most single mothers are doing a heroic job raising their kids. They are working two and three jobs, dropping their kids off at school or daycare or with friends or relatives, responding to their illnesses, and, quite frankly, doing the work that is often a challenge these days for even two parents. My appreciation for single mothers is unwavering. My own father was not around when I was growing up, and my mother and grandparents had to step up to the plate to fill my father's role.

But most people would agree that children are almost always better off with both parents contributing their fair share, and the data shows this.

Children are more likely to be poor and to do worse in school without both parents in their life. And a healthy relationship between children and their father is important to healthy growth and development.

The Responsible Fatherhood and Healthy Families Act addresses these problems by removing government barriers to healthy relationships and responsible fatherhood. It improves the economic stability of parents who accept their parenting responsibility. Our bill sets a high standard for parents and helps them to reach it with incentives, support, and tougher enforcement of child support obligations.

It takes courage to raise a child. We can't simply legislate that courage and expect all parents to get and stay married. We can't legislate good parenting skills or good behavior role models. We can't legislate economic success for all families. But we can help those who are trying to do the right thing and eliminate some of the roadblocks they face. And we can provide some tools to help these courageous parents succeed.

This act removes government roadblocks by eliminating a perverse disincentive to marriage in the Temporary Assistance to Needy Families program. Congress is sending the wrong message by telling States that they may be penalized for serving married couples. There should be equality for two-parent families receiving TANF, and States should not be required to meet a separate work participation rate for the two-parent families in their caseload.

This act also makes vital improvements to the child support system, which affects noncustodial fathers as much or more than any other government program. It will restore funding for child support enforcement and require States to pass the full amount of child support collected along to the family. Research has confirmed that a father is more likely to pay child support if he knows that the money is going to his kids.

We also require States to review the amount of child support arrears that are owed to the state, and we clarify existing state authority to forgive such arrearages. A father who earns only \$10,000 per year, and who has \$20,000 of child support debt because the State billed him for the Medicaid birthing costs of his child, is probably going to work underground and avoid paying child support altogether. It is in the best interest of all members of his family that a father has an incentive to get a legitimate job and to begin taking care of his family.

States are also provided funding to assess any other barriers to healthy family formation or sustainable employment created by their child support and criminal justice systems. They are encouraged to establish commissions to propose state law changes that would be in the best interest of children.

Another important aspect of this act is fostering economic stability for fathers and their families. This act establishes three employment demonstration programs. One program is supervised by courts or state child support agencies that serve parents who are determined to be in need of employment services in order to pay child support obligations. The court can arrange temporary employment services for the father rather than throwing him in jail for nonpayment of support. The second is a transitional jobs program that combines temporary subsidized employment with activities that help fathers develop skills and remove barriers to employment. The third program establishes public-private partnerships to provide fathers with "career pathways" that help them advance from jobs at low skill levels through jobs that require greater skills and provide family-sustaining wages and benefits.

These programs are modeled on successful initiatives in Indiana and Illinois and will be subject to rigorous evaluations to ensure the goals are being achieved.

In both the Illinois State Senate and the Senate, I have led efforts to expand the earned-income tax credit, EITC, which is one of the most successful antipoverty programs in the country to date. It rewards work and supplements wages that may be too low to support a family. The Responsible Fatherhood and Healthy Families Act would double the number of working single adults eligible for EITC benefits, increase the benefit, reward and support parents who are current on their child support payments, and reduce the EITC marriage penalty which hurts low-income families. Under this plan, full-time workers making minimum wage would get an EITC benefit up to \$555, more than three times greater than the \$175 benefit they get today. If the workers are responsibly supporting their children on child support, this bill would give those workers a benefit of \$1,110.

Additionally, this bill improves the Responsible Fatherhood and Marriage Promotion programs that were funded by the Deficit Reduction Act. Funding is increased, and all Fatherhood and Marriage programs are required to coordinate with domestic violence prevention services to reduce instances of domestic violence and promote healthy, nonviolent relationships.

I would like take a final few moments to talk about the breakdown of families in the African-American community, because the epidemic of absentee fathers runs deep. Today, around 70 percent of Black children are born outside of marriage. Of the 30 percent born to married parents, more than half experience a divorce. That means that about 85 percent of Black children spend some or all of their childhood in a home without their father. As our children grow up, statistics continue to paint a bleak picture. Fewer than 6 of every 10 young Black men are em-

ployed, and in some of our urban and rural areas the rate of unemployment is over 50 percent. Roughly one-third of young Black men are involved in some way with the criminal justice system. And young Black men have the lowest educational attainment among Black and White men and women.

These factors contribute to low marriage rates among African-American men. But by age 34, nearly half of black men are fathers. And roughly two-thirds of all Black men leaving prison are fathers. As hard as some of these men try, it is likely that their children will also be denied the advantages of healthy parental relationships and married families. Their children will be more likely to live in poverty and to become young, unmarried parents themselves. Their children's life chances will be limited. The cycle of poverty and despair will continue.

It is important to remember that there is no segment of our population no income level, no religion, and no race—that is immune to these challenges. Some segments of the population are worse off than others. However, I believe there is reason for hope. At the time of the birth of the child, most fathers are close to both the mother and their child. The challenge is to maintain healthy relationships between parents and to strengthen the early bonds between fathers and their children. The challenge is to improve economic opportunity for all parents so they can support themselves and their families. The challenge is to break the cycle by strengthening America's most vulnerable and fragile families.

That is what this bill does, and it is fully paid for by revenue raised by closing tax loopholes. This is a solid first step forward in removing government barriers to healthy family formation, and addressing the crisis of fatherhood among our Nation's low-income populations. I urge my colleagues to support the Responsible Fatherhood and Healthy Families Act of 2007.

ARMENIAN GENOCIDE

Mr. BIDEN. Mr. President, at a time when we are witnessing the devastating consequences of ethnic and sectarian division in places such as Iraq and Darfur, I believe it is vital to recognize the efforts of those who work to promote peace and reconciliation. In that spirit, I wish to commend the 53 Nobel laureates who signed an appeal by the Elie Wiesel Foundation for Humanity in support of "tolerance, contact and cooperation between Turks and Armenians."

In their appeal, the laureates call on both Turks and Armenians to take the steps necessary to open the Turkish-Armenian border, generate confidence through civil society cooperation, improve official contacts, and allow basic freedoms. As part of this commitment, the laureates call on Turkey to end all forms of discrimination against ethnic and religious minorities and abolish

Article 301 of the Turkish Penal Code. This provision has been used to take legal action against those who speak out about the Armenian genocide, including Nobel laureate Orhan Pamuk and recently murdered Turkish-Armenian journalist Hrant Dink. There is no question that article 301 contributed to the toxic political environment that led up to Mr. Dink's assassination in January.

The laureates also note that "Turks and Armenians have a huge gap in perceptions over the Armenian Genocide." To address this chasm of understanding, they call for further study and dissemination of a report prepared by the International Center for Transitional Justice. That impartial analysis of the massacres perpetrated against Armenians in the early 20th century concluded that the killings "can be said to include all the elements of the crime of genocide . . ." This finding was corroborated by the International Association of Genocide Scholars, which issued its own statement in 1997 to reaffirm "that the mass murder of Armenians in Turkey in 1915 is a case of genocide which conforms to the statutes of the United Nations Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of Genocide." The existence of these independent evaluations of the Armenian genocide and relevant international law should provide an opportunity for both countries to accept the verdict of history and move forward.

Mr. President, the Senate Foreign Relations Committee has unanimously passed S. Res. 65, a resolution echoing many of the sentiments expressed by the laureates and honoring the life of Hrant Dink, a leading proponent of Turkish-Armenian reconciliation up until the time of his brutal murder. It is my hope that the full Senate will adopt this important measure without further delay.

I congratulate the Wiesel Foundation for its work to produce this important statement and request consent that it be printed in the RECORD. I hope that the words of these Nobel laureates will encourage the people of both nations to recognize and ultimately transcend the legacy of the Armenian genocide. Once this occurs, I have every confidence that the people of Armenia and Turkey will be able to rebuild the ties between their countries and forge a new, enduring peace.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

THE ELIE WIESEL
FOUNDATION FOR HUMANITY,
New York, NY, April 9, 2007.

DEAR FRIENDS: We, the undersigned Nobel laureates, issue this appeal directly to the peoples of Turkey and Armenia. Mindful of the sacrifice paid by Hrant Dink, the ethnic Armenian editor of *Agos* in Turkey, who was assassinated on January 19, 2007, and whose death was mourned by both Turks and Armenians, we believe that the best way to pay tribute to Mr. Dink is through service to his life's work safeguarding freedom of expression and fostering reconciliation between Turks and Armenians.

To these ends, Armenians and Turks should encourage their governments to:

Open the Turkish-Armenian border. An open border would greatly improve the economic conditions for communities on both sides of the border and enable human interaction, which is essential for mutual understanding. Treaties between the two countries recognize existing borders and call for unhampered travel and trade.

Generate confidence through civil society cooperation. Turks and Armenians have been working since 2001 on practical projects that offer great promise in creatively and constructively dealing with shared problems. The governments should support such efforts by, for example, sponsoring academic links between Turkish and Armenian faculty, as well as student exchanges.

Improve official contacts. Civil society initiatives would be enhanced by the governments' decision to accelerate their bilateral contacts, devise new frameworks for consultation, and consolidate relations through additional treaty arrangements and full diplomatic relations.

Allow basic freedoms. Turkey should end discrimination against ethnic and religious minorities and abolish Article 301 of the Penal Code, which makes it a criminal offense to denigrate Turkishness. Armenia also should reverse its own authoritarian course, allow free and fair elections, and respect human rights.

Turks and Armenians have a huge gap in perceptions over the Armenian Genocide. To address this gap, we refer to the 2003 "Legal Analysis on the Applicability of the United Nations Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide to Events which Occurred During the Early Twentieth Century," which corroborated findings of the International Association of Genocide Scholars.

It concluded that, "At least some of the [Ottoman] perpetrators knew that the consequences of their actions would be the destruction, in whole or in part, of the Armenians of eastern Anatolia, as such, or acted purposefully towards this goal and, therefore, possessed the requisite genocidal intent. The Events can thus be said to include all the elements of the crime of genocide as defined in the Convention." It also concluded that, "The Genocide Convention contains no provision mandating its retroactive application."

The analysis offers a way forward, which addresses the core concerns of both Armenians and Turks. Of course, coming to terms will be painful and difficult. Progress will not occur right away. Rather than leaving governments to their own devices, affected peoples and the leaders of civil society need to engage in activities that promote understanding and reconciliation while, at the same time, urging their governments to chart a course towards a brighter future.

Sincerely,

Peter Agre, Nobel Prize, Chemistry (2003).

Sidney Altman, Nobel Prize, Chemistry (1989).

Philip W. Anderson, Nobel Prize, Physics (1977).

Kenneth J. Arrow, Nobel Prize, Economics (1972).

Richard Axel, Nobel Prize, Medicine (2004).

Baruj Benacerraf, Nobel Prize, Medicine (1980).

Gunter Blobel, Nobel Prize, Medicine (1999).

Georges Charpak, Nobel Prize, Physics (1992).

Steven Chu, Nobel Prize, Physics (1997).

J.M. Coetzee, Nobel Prize, Literature (2003).

Claude Cohen-Tannoudji, Nobel Prize, Physics (1997).

Mairead Corrigan Maguire, Nobel Prize, Peace (1976).

Robert F. Curl Jr., Nobel Prize, Chemistry (1996).

Paul J. Crutzen, Nobel Prize, Chemistry (1995).

Frederik W. de Klerk, Nobel Prize, Peace (1993).

Johann Deisenhofer, Nobel Prize, Chemistry (1998).

John B. Fenn, Nobel Prize, Chemistry (2002).

Val Fitch, Nobel Prize, Physics (1980).

Jerome I. Friedman, Nobel Prize, Physics (1990).

Donald A. Glaser, Nobel Prize, Physics (1960).

Sheldon Glashow, Nobel Prize, Physics (1979).

Roy J. Glauber, Nobel Prize, Physics (2005).

Clive W.J. Granger, Nobel Prize, Economics (2003).

Paul Greengard, Nobel Prize, Medicine (2000).

David J. Gross, Nobel Prize, Physics (2004).

Roger Guillemin, Nobel Prize, Medicine (1977).

Dudley R. Herschbach, Nobel Prize, Chemistry (1986).

Avram Hershko, Nobel Prize, Chemistry (2004).

Roald Hoffman, Nobel Prize, Chemistry (1981).

Daniel Kahneman, Nobel Prize, Economics (2002).

Eric R. Kandel, Nobel Prize, Medicine (2000).

Aaron Klug, Nobel Prize, Chemistry (1982).

Edwin G. Krebs, Nobel Prize, Medicine (1992).

Sir Harold W. Kroto, Nobel Prize, Chemistry (1996).

Finn E. Kydland, Nobel Prize, Economics (2004).

Leon M. Lederman, Nobel Prize, Physics (1988).

Anthony J. Leggett, Nobel Prize, Physics (2003).

Rudolph A. Marcus, Nobel Prize, Chemistry (1992).

Daniel L. McFadden, Nobel Prize, Economics (2000).

Craig C. Mello, Nobel Prize, Medicine (2006).

Robert C. Merton, Nobel Prize, Economics (1997).

Marshall W. Nirenberg, Nobel Prize, Medicine (1968).

Sir Paul Nurse, Nobel Prize, Medicine (2001).

Douglas D. Osheroff, Nobel Prize, Physics (1996).

Martin L. Perl, Nobel Prize, Physics (1995).

John C. Polanyi, Nobel Prize, Chemistry (1986).

Stanley Prusiner, Nobel Prize, Medicine (1997).

José Ramos-Horta, Nobel Prize, Peace (1996).

Richard J. Roberts, Nobel Prize, Medicine (1993).

Wole Soyinka, Nobel Prize, Literature (1986).

Elie Wiesel, Nobel Prize, Peace (1986).

Betty Williams, Nobel Prize, Peace (1976).

Kurt Wüthrich, Nobel Prize, Chemistry (2002).

dertaken over the past few years by two nephrologists who, only recently, have come to call Idaho "home." Dr. Naeem Rahim and his brother Dr. Fahim Rahim, originally from Pakistan, came to Pocatello, Idaho from New York City in 2005. In less than a year, the Rahim brothers established a world-class kidney treatment center, the Idaho Kidney Institute. Their work has meant improved health and saved lives for those suffering from chronic kidney disease, uncontrolled high blood pressure, postkidney transplant care, internal medicine, diabetes-related kidney problems, anemia and dialysis care. Started in Pocatello, the institute has offices in Blackfoot and Idaho Falls. The Rahim brothers have helped people of all ages seeking relief and care for renal diseases, both critical and long-term care.

The Rahim brothers have closed a gap in treatment facilities and services for kidney patients in southeast Idaho and, in particular, understand the need for preventive care. Additionally, they have a reputation for delivering their medical expertise with an astute sense of care and concern for their patients. Their outstanding work was brought to my attention by a family who had sought care for an ill relative, literally, across the Nation, with limited success. Upon learning of the Idaho Kidney Institute, they sought treatment there, and met with overwhelming success. It is good to know that Idahoans have access to such exceptional medical expertise, right at home.

Idaho has many gems; Doctors Fahim and Naeem Rahim are two such gems.●

HONORING WEBSTER P. PHILLIPS

● Mr. BAUCUS. Mr. President, today, Senator GRASSLEY and I recognize Webster Phillips, a distinguished executive at the Social Security Administration. Web is Associate Commissioner for Legislative Development. He is a dedicated public servant who has served his country for more than 30 years.

A native of Illinois, Web served in the U.S. Army in Vietnam. He began his career at Social Security in the local office in Alton, IL, as a claims representative. In 1980, he became an operations supervisor in the Rock Island, IL, Social Security office. In 1983, Web was selected as a management intern and completed a series of developmental assignments in the Chicago regional office and in SSA headquarters in Baltimore. In 1987, Web joined the staff of the Office of Legislation and Congressional Affairs, and has worked in a variety of assignments since that time.

Senator GRASSLEY and I met Web in 1991, when he was assigned to the Senate Committee on Finance while participating in the LEGIS-Fellows program. In 1993, Web returned to the Finance Committee where he participated in the development of the legislation enacted by the Congress in 1994 that established SSA as an independent

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

RECOGNIZING DRS. NAEEM AND FAHIM RAHIM

● Mr. CRAPO. Mr. President, today I recognize the remarkable efforts un-

agency. Since 1995, Web has been assigned to SSA's Legislative Affairs Office in Washington. He was selected to serve in his current position as Associate Commissioner of Legislative Development in February 1999.

The staff of the Finance Committee has had the pleasure of working with Web on many issues relating to Social Security during his tenure at SSA. He has always been resourceful, insightful, and forthcoming.

Web will retire from the Social Security Administration on July 3, 2007. He will be sorely missed by his colleagues and his many friends on the Hill. He will leave behind the numerous individuals he has mentored and encouraged over the years and who will now carry on this work.

Both Senator GRASSLEY and I feel that it is important that we in Congress recognize the many women and men who devote their working lives to improving the lives of others. Career civil servants often do their work in quiet anonymity behind the scenes providing vital service to the American people. They are rarely recognized for their many contributions. Webster Phillips is one of those people. His record of leadership at the Social Security Administration and his commitment to providing the American people with effective and compassionate service is a record of which he can be justly proud.

Senator GRASSLEY and I wish Web all the best in his retirement from Federal service and thank him for his many years of dedicated service.●

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

The following bills and joint resolutions were introduced, read the first and second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

By Mr. BYRD:

S. 1633. A bill to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a special resource study to determine the suitability and feasibility of including the battlefield and related sites of the Battle of Shepherdstown in Shepherdstown, West Virginia, as part of Harpers Ferry National Historical Park or Antietam National Battlefield, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. AKAKA (for himself, Ms. MURKOWSKI, Ms. CANTWELL, and Mr. INOUE):

S. 1634. A bill to implement further the Act approving the Covenant to Establish a Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands in Political Union with the United States of America, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Ms. CANTWELL (for herself, Mr. BINGAMAN, and Mr. DOMENICI):

S. 1635. A bill to provide for the reimbursement of wildland firefighters for the cost of professional liability insurance; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mrs. DOLE (for herself and Mrs. LINCOLN):

S. 1636. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to permanently allow penalty-free withdrawals from retirement plans for individuals called to active duty for at least 179 days; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. INHOFE:

S. 1637. A bill to establish a geothermal heat pump technology acceleration program relating to General Services Administration facilities; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

By Mr. LEAHY (for himself, Mr.

HATCH, Mr. REID, Mr. MCCONNELL,

Mrs. FEINSTEIN, and Mr. GRAHAM):

S. 1638. A bill to adjust the salaries of Federal justices and judges, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 57

At the request of Mr. INOUE, the name of the Senator from Illinois (Mr. OBAMA) was added as a cosponsor of S. 57, a bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to deem certain service in the organized military forces of the Government of the Commonwealth of the Philippines and the Philippine Scouts to have been active service for purposes of benefits under programs administered by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs.

S. 311

At the request of Ms. LANDRIEU, the name of the Senator from Hawaii (Mr. AKAKA) was added as a cosponsor of S. 311, a bill to amend the Horse Protection Act to prohibit the shipping, transporting, moving, delivering, receiving, possessing, purchasing, selling, or donation of horses and other equines to be slaughtered for human consumption, and for other purposes.

S. 439

At the request of Mr. REID, the name of the Senator from Nebraska (Mr. HAGEL) was added as a cosponsor of S. 439, a bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to permit certain retired members of the uniformed services who have a service-connected disability to receive both disability compensation from the Department of Veterans Affairs for their disability and either retired pay by reason of their years of military service or Combat-Related Special Compensation.

S. 442

At the request of Mr. DURBIN, the name of the Senator from Montana (Mr. BAUCUS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 442, a bill to provide for loan repayment for prosecutors and public defenders.

S. 871

At the request of Mr. LIEBERMAN, the name of the Senator from Florida (Mr. NELSON) was added as a cosponsor of S. 871, a bill to establish and provide for the treatment of Individual Development Accounts, and for other purposes.

S. 901

At the request of Mr. KENNEDY, the names of the Senator from Maryland (Mr. CARDIN) and the Senator from Missouri (Mrs. MCCASKILL) were added as cosponsors of S. 901, a bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to provide additional authorizations of appropriations for the health centers program under section 330 of such Act.

S. 1172

At the request of Mr. DURBIN, the name of the Senator from South Da-

kota (Mr. JOHNSON) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1172, a bill to reduce hunger in the United States.

S. 1175

At the request of Mr. DURBIN, the name of the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. KERRY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1175, a bill to end the use of child soldiers in hostilities around the world, and for other purposes.

S. 1233

At the request of Mr. AKAKA, the name of the Senator from Iowa (Mr. HARKIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1233, a bill to provide and enhance intervention, rehabilitative treatment, and services to veterans with traumatic brain injury, and for other purposes.

S. 1285

At the request of Mr. DURBIN, the names of the Senator from California (Mrs. BOXER), the Senator from Maryland (Mr. CARDIN), the Senator from Delaware (Mr. CARPER), the Senator from Iowa (Mr. HARKIN), the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. KENNEDY) and the Senator from Missouri (Mrs. MCCASKILL) were added as cosponsors of S. 1285, a bill to reform the financing of Senate elections, and for other purposes.

S. 1432

At the request of Mr. BROWN, the name of the Senator from Michigan (Ms. STABENOW) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1432, a bill to amend the Food Stamp Act of 1977 and the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act to improve access to healthy foods, and for other purposes.

S. 1618

At the request of Mr. SALAZAR, the name of the Senator from New York (Mr. SCHUMER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1618, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide a credit for the production of a cellulosic biofuel.

S. RES. 215

At the request of Mr. ALLARD, the names of the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. LIEBERMAN), the Senator from Michigan (Mr. LEVIN) and the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. WHITEHOUSE) were added as cosponsors of S. Res. 215, a resolution designating September 25, 2007, as "National First Responder Appreciation Day".

S. RES. 236

At the request of Mr. BAYH, the name of the Senator from Florida (Mr. MARTINEZ) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 236, a resolution supporting the goals and ideals of the National Anthem Project, which has worked to restore America's voice by re-teaching Americans to sing the national anthem.

AMENDMENT NO. 1572

At the request of Mr. SALAZAR, the names of the Senator from Oregon (Mr. SMITH), the Senator from Tennessee (Mr. ALEXANDER) and the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. MENENDEZ) were added as cosponsors of amendment No. 1572

proposed to H.R. 6, a bill to reduce our Nation's dependency on foreign oil by investing in clean, renewable, and alternative energy resources, promoting new emerging energy technologies, developing greater efficiency, and creating a Strategic Energy Efficiency and Renewables Reserve to invest in alternative energy, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 1574

At the request of Mr. LAUTENBERG, the name of the Senator from California (Mrs. BOXER) was added as a co-sponsor of amendment No. 1574 intended to be proposed to H.R. 6, a bill to reduce our Nation's dependency on foreign oil by investing in clean, renewable, and alternative energy resources, promoting new emerging energy technologies, developing greater efficiency, and creating a Strategic Energy Efficiency and Renewables Reserve to invest in alternative energy, and for other purposes.

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Mr. LEAHY (for himself, Mr. HATCH, Mr. REID, Mr. MCCONNELL, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, and Mr. GRAHAM):

S. 1638. A bill to adjust the salaries of Federal justices and judges, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, today I am pleased to introduce the Federal Judicial Salary Restoration Act of 2007. Since 1969, the salaries of Federal judges have significantly declined when adjusted for inflation. This bill would demonstrate our respect and appreciation for our hardworking Federal judges by authorizing an immediate and substantial increase in judicial salaries. Our bill recognizes the important constitutional role judges play in administering justice, interpreting our laws, and providing the ultimate check and balance in our system of government. It is time Congress treated the Federal judiciary with the respect that a co-equal branch of government deserves.

Eight years ago, in 1999, the President's salary was doubled to \$400,000 a year. We are not proposing to increase judges' salaries by 100 percent, but by half that, by 50 percent. The increase is an important step in ensuring the independence of the judiciary. Judicial independence is critical for preserving our system of government and protecting the rights of all Americans. Surely we can do half as much for the judicial branch of Government as we did for the executive branch 8 years ago.

For too long, judicial salaries have failed even to keep up with inflation while public and private sector salaries have surged ahead. According to information provided by the Administrative Office of the United States Courts, judicial salaries have declined by nearly 25 percent in real terms since 1969. Dur-

ing the same time, private sector salaries have increased by more than 15 percent. In 1969, a Federal district court judge earned 20 percent more than a law school dean and about 30 percent more than a senior law professor at a top law school. By contrast, today top law school deans make twice as much as district court judges, and senior law professors at those schools make nearly 50 percent more. Many recent law school graduates will make more in their starting salary at a private law firm than we pay to an experienced district court judge. Those in the executive branch have enjoyed periodic raises that have taken their salaries well above those of judges. For example, SEC trial attorneys now make up to \$180,330, which is significantly higher than the annual salary of our Federal trial judges.

In addition, the workload for Federal judges has increased dramatically. Since 1960, the caseload for district court judges has climbed by almost 60 percent and the caseload of circuit court judges has jumped more than 200 percent. Judges who are working to preserve the rule of law in America and to make equal justice a reality should be respected, and their labor should be compensated.

Paul Volcker, the chair of the National Commission on the Public Service, recently noted in *The Wall Street Journal* that congressional inaction on judicial pay could erode the high professional standards and independence of the Judiciary. Chief Justice Rehnquist repeatedly called for an increase in judicial pay, warning that "[i]nadequate compensation seriously compromises the judicial independence fostered by life tenure" and that "... low salaries might force judges to return to the private sector rather than stay on the bench." Chief Justice Roberts pointed to an increasing trend in early retirement in his last "Year-End Report on the Federal Judiciary," noting that many of those retired judges have gone to work in the private sector. Justice Anthony Kennedy testified before the Senate Judiciary Committee in February about similar threats to judicial independence.

This bill addresses these concerns by granting a raise for all Federal judges. This bipartisan legislation has broad support. President Bush supports a significant pay raise for judges, as does the American Bar Association, as do the deans of 130 of the Nation's top law schools, civil rights groups, and others.

One of the first bills we passed in the Senate this year, S. 197, authorized cost-of-living adjustments for the salaries of United States judges. Senators SPECTER, FEINSTEIN and CORNYN joined me in cosponsoring this bill. Unfortunately, that bill has failed to move through the House of Representatives. Too often during the last several years our Federal judges have not been given a standard cost-of-living raise. That, too, has contributed to the diminution in their real compensation.

Our democracy and the rights we enjoy depend on a strong and independent judiciary. During the last few years it has been the courts that have acted to protect our liberties and our Constitution. The independence of the judiciary is compromised, however, if judges leave the bench for financial reasons. The quality of the judiciary is threatened if judges' salaries are inadequate to attract and retain our best legal minds. Given the essential role that the judiciary plays in our system of government, we should pass this raise to judicial salaries.

I thank my Judiciary Committee colleagues, Senator HATCH, Senator FEINSTEIN and Senator CORNYN for agreeing to join me in introducing this bill. I also thank Majority Leader REID, as well as Minority Leader MCCONNELL, for their support of this legislation and their commitment to the Federal judiciary.

AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED AND PROPOSED

SA 1610. Mr. CARDIN (for himself, Ms. MIKULSKI, Mr. DODD, Mr. KERRY, Mr. REED, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, and Ms. SNOWE) proposed an amendment to amendment SA 1502 proposed by Mr. REID to the bill H.R. 6, to reduce our Nation's dependency on foreign oil by investing in clean, renewable, and alternative energy resources, promoting new emerging energy technologies, developing greater efficiency, and creating a Strategic Energy Efficiency and Renewables Reserve to invest in alternative energy, and for other purposes.

SA 1611. Mr. COLEMAN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 1502 proposed by Mr. REID to the bill H.R. 6, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1612. Mr. COLEMAN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 1502 proposed by Mr. REID to the bill H.R. 6, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1613. Mr. COLEMAN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 1502 proposed by Mr. REID to the bill H.R. 6, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1614. Mr. TESTER (for himself, Mr. BYRD, Mr. ROCKEFELLER, Mr. SALAZAR, and Mr. BINGAMAN) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 1502 proposed by Mr. REID to the bill H.R. 6, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1615. Ms. COLLINS (for herself, Ms. CANTWELL, Ms. SNOWE, and Mrs. MURRAY) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 1502 proposed by Mr. REID to the bill H.R. 6, supra.

SA 1616. Mr. DURBIN (for himself and Mr. CARPER) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 1502 proposed by Mr. REID to the bill H.R. 6, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1617. Mr. TESTER submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 1502 proposed by Mr. REID to the bill H.R. 6, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1618. Mr. INHOFE submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 6, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1619. Mr. INHOFE submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 1502 proposed by Mr. REID to the bill H.R.

6, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1620. Mr. INHOFE submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 6, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1621. Mr. INHOFE submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 6, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1622. Mr. INHOFE submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 6, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

TEXT OF AMENDMENTS

SA 1610. Mr. CARDIN (for himself, Ms. MIKULSKI, Mr. DODD, Mr. KERRY, Mr. REED, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, and Ms. SNOWE) proposed an amendment to amendment SA 1502 proposed by Mr. REED to the bill H.R. 6, to reduce our Nation's dependency on foreign oil by investing in clean, renewable, and alternative energy resources, promoting new emerging energy technologies, developing greater efficiency, and creating a Strategic Energy Efficiency and Renewables Reserve to invest in alternative energy, and for other purposes; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. ____ . SITING, CONSTRUCTION, EXPANSION, AND OPERATION OF LNG TERMINALS.

Section 10 of the Act of March 3, 1899 (33 U.S.C. 403), is amended—

(1) by striking the section designation and all that follows through "creation" and inserting the following:

"SEC. 10. OBSTRUCTION OF NAVIGABLE WATERS; WHARVES AND PIERS; EXCAVATIONS AND FILLING IN.

"(a) IN GENERAL.—The creation"; and

(2) by adding at the end the following:

"(b) SITING, CONSTRUCTION, EXPANSION, AND OPERATION OF LNG TERMINALS.—

"(1) DEFINITION OF AFFECTED STATE.—In this subsection, the term 'affected State' means, with respect to a liquefied natural gas terminal that is the subject of an application for an authorization under this section, a State that—

"(A) would be directly connected by a pipeline to the liquefied natural gas terminal;

"(B) would be located within 15 miles of the liquefied natural gas terminal; or

"(C) is designated as an affected State by the Secretary due to a risk of damage to the coastal environment of the affected State that is equal to or greater than the risk of damage to the coastal environment of the State in which the liquefied natural gas terminal is proposed to be located.

"(2) LIMITATION.—The Secretary shall not approve or disapprove an application for an authorization under this section for the siting, construction, expansion, or operation of a liquefied natural gas terminal pursuant to this section without the express concurrence of the Governor of each affected State."

SA 1611. Mr. COLEMAN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 1502 proposed by Mr. REID to the bill H.R. 6, to reduce our Nation's dependency on foreign oil by investing in clean, renewable, and alternative energy resources, promoting new emerging energy technologies, developing greater efficiency, and cre-

ating a Strategic Energy Efficiency and Renewables Reserve to invest in alternative energy, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

On page 38, strike lines 11 through 17 and insert the following:

"(4) PROJECT DESIGN.—

"(A) IN GENERAL.—A project for which a guarantee is made under this subsection shall have a project design that—

"(i) has been validated through the operation of a continuous process pilot facility with an annual output of at least 50,000 gallons of ethanol or the energy equivalent volume of other advanced biofuels; or

"(ii) provides for upgrades to an existing ethanol production facility that would increase ethanol production at the facility through the addition of cellulosic production capabilities, if the Secretary certifies that—

"(I) the upgrades would increase total ethanol production at the facility; and

"(II) the facility has the cellulosic transportation and logistical resources and cellulosic process technologies necessary to provide the increase in ethanol production required under subclause (I).

"(B) PRIORITY.—In providing guarantees under this subsection, the Secretary shall give priority to projects to be carried out in communities with a population of 25,000 or less residents.

SA 1612. Mr. COLEMAN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 1502 proposed by Mr. REID to the bill H.R. 6, to reduce our Nation's dependency on foreign oil by investing in clean, renewable, and alternative energy resources, promoting new emerging energy technologies, developing greater efficiency, and creating a Strategic Energy Efficiency and Renewables Reserve to invest in alternative energy, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

On page 47, after line 23, add the following:

SEC. 131. RENEWABLE FUEL COMPREHENSIVE STRATEGIC COORDINATION.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall develop a comprehensive strategic program to coordinate, to the maximum extent practicable—

(1) the renewable fuel standards required by this Act; and

(2) the distribution infrastructure development and vehicle production levels necessary to minimize economic disruption as a result of those standards.

(b) REPORT.—The Secretary shall submit to Congress a report that contains—

(1) a determination of the Secretary with respect to the effectiveness and practicability of using, on a national scale, an ethanol blend fuel (such as E-15 or E-20 blended fuel) to achieve the most efficient expansion of ethanol use; and

(2) if the Secretary determines that use of an ethanol blend fuel as described in paragraph (1) would be effective and practicable, recommendations of the Secretary relating to—

(A) the appropriate type and level of use of ethanol blend fuels; and

(B) an interagency plan to achieve that type and level.

SA 1613. Mr. COLEMAN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 1502 proposed by Mr. REID to the bill H.R. 6, to reduce our Nation's dependency on foreign oil by

investing in clean, renewable, and alternative energy resources, promoting new emerging energy technologies, developing greater efficiency, and creating a Strategic Energy Efficiency and Renewables Reserve to invest in alternative energy, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

On page 12, strike the table between lines 15 and 16 and insert the following:

Calendar year:	"Applicable volume of renewable fuel (in billions of gallons):"
2008	8.5
2009	10.5
2010	12.0
2011	12.6
2012	14.2
2013	15.8
2014	18.4
2015	23.0
2016	26.0
2017	29.0
2018	32.0
2019	35.0
2020	38.0
2021	41.0
2022	44.0."

On page 13, line 3, strike "2016" and insert "2012".

On page 13, strike the table between lines 5 and 6 and insert the following:

Calendar year:	"Applicable volume of advanced biofuels (in billions of gallons):"
2012	1.0
2013	2.0
2014	4.0
2015	8.0
2016	11.0
2017	14.0
2018	17.0
2019	20.0
2020	23.0
2021	27.0
2022	30.0."

SA 1614. Mr. TESTER (for himself, Mr. BYRD, Mr. ROCKEFELLER, Mr. SALAZAR, and Mr. BINGAMAN) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 1502 proposed by Mr. REID to the bill H.R. 6, to reduce our Nation's dependency on foreign oil by investing in clean, renewable, and alternative energy resources, promoting new emerging energy technologies, developing greater efficiency, and creating a Strategic Energy Efficiency and Renewables Reserve to invest in alternative energy, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of title III, add the following:

SEC. 3 ____ . COAL INNOVATION DIRECT LOAN PROGRAM.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Title XXXI of the Energy Policy Act of 1992 (42 U.S.C. 13571 et seq.) is amended by adding at the end the following:

"SEC. 3105. COAL INNOVATION DIRECT LOAN PROGRAM.

"(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

"(1) CARBON CAPTURE.—The term 'carbon capture' means the capture, separation, and compression of carbon dioxide that would otherwise be released to the atmosphere at a facility in the production of end products of a project prior to transportation of the carbon dioxide to a long-term storage site.

“(2) COAL-TO-LIQUID PRODUCT.—The term ‘coal-to-liquid product’ means a liquid fuel resulting from the conversion of a feedstock, as described in this section.

“(3) COMBUSTIBLE END PRODUCT.—The term ‘combustible end product’ means any product of a facility intended to be used as a combustible fuel.

“(4) CONVENTIONAL BASELINE EMISSIONS.—The term ‘conventional baseline emissions’ means—

“(A) the lifecycle greenhouse gas emissions of a facility that produces combustible end products, using petroleum as a feedstock, that are equivalent to combustible end products produced by a facility of comparable size through an eligible project;

“(B) in the case of noncombustible products produced through an eligible project, the average lifecycle greenhouse gas emissions emitted by projects that—

“(i) are of comparable size; and

“(ii) produce equivalent products using conventional feedstocks; and

“(C) in the case of synthesized gas intended for use as a combustible fuel in lieu of natural gas produced by an eligible project, the lifecycle greenhouse gas emissions that would result from equivalent use of natural gas.

“(5) ELIGIBLE PROJECT.—The term ‘eligible project’ means a project—

“(A) that employs gasification technology or another conversion process for feedstocks described in this section; and

“(B) for which—

“(i) the annual lifecycle greenhouse gas emissions of the project are at least 20 percent lower than conventional baseline emissions;

“(ii) at least 75 percent of the carbon dioxide that would otherwise be released to the atmosphere at the facility in the production of end products of the project is captured for long-term storage;

“(iii) the individual or entity carrying out the eligible project has entered into an enforceable agreement with the Secretary to implement carbon capture at the percentage that, by the end of the 5-year period after commencement of commercial operation of the eligible project—

“(I) represents the best available technology; and

“(II) achieves a reduction in carbon emissions that is not less than 75 percent; and

“(iv) in the opinion of the Secretary, sufficient commitments have been secured to achieve long-term storage of captured carbon dioxide beginning as of the date of commencement of commercial operation of the project.

“(6) FACILITY.—The term ‘facility’ means a facility at which the conversion of feedstocks to end products takes place.

“(7) GASIFICATION TECHNOLOGY.—The term ‘gasification technology’ means any process that converts coal, petroleum residue, renewable biomass, or other material that is recovered for energy or feedstock value into a synthesis gas composed primarily of carbon monoxide and hydrogen for direct use or subsequent chemical or physical conversion.

“(8) GREENHOUSE GAS.—The term ‘greenhouse gas’ means any of—

“(A) carbon dioxide;

“(B) methane;

“(C) nitrous oxide;

“(D) hydrofluorocarbons;

“(E) perfluorocarbons; and

“(F) sulfur hexafluoride.

“(9) LIFECYCLE GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS.—The term ‘lifecycle greenhouse gas emissions’ means the aggregate quantity of greenhouse gases attributable to the production and transportation of end products at a facility, including the production, extraction, cultivation, distribution, marketing,

and transportation of feedstocks, and the subsequent distribution and use of any combustible end products, as modified by deducting, as determined by the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency—

“(A) any greenhouse gases captured at the facility and sequestered;

“(B) the carbon content, expressed in units of carbon dioxide equivalent, of any feedstock that is renewable biomass; and

“(C) the carbon content, expressed in units of carbon dioxide equivalent, of any end products that do not result in the release of carbon dioxide to the atmosphere.

“(10) LONG-TERM STORAGE.—The term ‘long-term storage’ means sequestration with an expected maximum rate of carbon dioxide leakage over a specified period of time that is consistent with the objective of reducing atmospheric concentrations of carbon dioxide, subject to a permit issued pursuant to law in effect as of the date of the sequestration.

“(11) RENEWABLE BIOMASS.—The term ‘renewable biomass’ has the definition given the term in section 102 of the Renewable Fuels, Consumer Protection, and Energy Efficiency Act of 2007.

“(12) SEQUESTRATION.—The term ‘sequestration’ means the placement of carbon dioxide in a geological formation, including—

“(A) an operating oil and gas field;

“(B) coal bed methane recovery;

“(C) a depleted oil and gas field;

“(D) an unmineable coal seam;

“(E) a deep saline formation; and

“(F) a deep geological systems containing basalt formations.

“(b) FEED ASSISTANCE PROGRAM.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—Subject to paragraph (3), and in accordance with section 988 of the Energy Policy Act of 2005 (42 U.S.C. 16352), not later than 1 year after the date of the enactment of this section, the Secretary shall carry out a program to provide grants for use in obtaining or carrying out any services necessary for the planning, permitting, and construction of an eligible project.

“(2) SELECTION OF ELIGIBLE PROJECTS.—The Secretary shall select eligible projects to receive grants under this section—

“(A) through the conduct of a reverse auction, in which eligible projects proposed to be carried out that have the greatest rate of carbon capture and long-term storage, and the lowest lifecycle greenhouse gas emissions, are given priority;

“(B) that, taken together, would—

“(i) represent a variety of geographical regions;

“(ii) use a variety of feedstocks and types of coal; and

“(iii) to the extent consistent with achieving long-term storage, represent a variety of geological formations; and

“(C) for which eligible projects, in the opinion of the Secretary—

“(i) each award recipient is financially viable without the receipt of additional Federal funding associated with the proposed project;

“(ii) each recipient will provide sufficient information to the Secretary for the Secretary to ensure that the qualified investment is expended efficiently and effectively;

“(iii) a market exists for the products of the proposed project, as evidenced by contracts or written statements of intent from potential customers;

“(iv) the project team of each recipient is competent in the construction and operation of the gasification technology proposed; and

“(v) each recipient has met such other criteria as may be established and published by the Secretary.

“(3) MAXIMUM AMOUNT OF GRANTS.—In carrying out this subsection, the Secretary shall provide not more than—

“(A) \$20,000,000 in grant funds for any eligible project; and

“(B) \$200,000,000 in grant funds, in the aggregate, for all eligible projects.

“(c) DIRECT LOAN PROGRAM.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this section, and subject to funds being made available in advance through appropriations Acts, the Secretary shall carry out a program to provide a total of not more than \$10,000,000,000 in loans to eligible individuals and entities (as determined by the Secretary) for use in carrying out eligible projects.

“(2) APPLICATION.—An applicant for a loan under this section shall comply with the terms and conditions in section 215(b)(3) of the Renewable Fuels, Consumer Protection, and Energy Efficiency Act of 2007 in the same manner in which applicants for Renewable Energy Construction grants are required to comply with that section.

“(3) SELECTION OF ELIGIBLE PROJECTS.—The Secretary shall select eligible projects to receive loans under this section—

“(A) through the conduct of a reverse auction, in which eligible projects proposed to be carried out that have the greatest rate of carbon capture and long-term storage, and the lowest lifecycle greenhouse gas emissions, are given priority;

“(B) that, taken together, would—

“(i) represent a variety of geographic regions;

“(ii) use a variety of types of feedstocks and coal; and

“(iii) to the extent consistent with achieving long-term storage, represent a variety of geological formations; and

“(C) for which eligible projects, in the opinion of the Secretary—

“(i) each award recipient is financially viable without the receipt of additional Federal funding associated with the proposed project;

“(ii) each recipient will provide sufficient information to the Secretary for the Secretary to ensure that the qualified investment is expended efficiently and effectively;

“(iii) a market exists for the products of the proposed project, as evidenced by contracts or written statements of intent from potential customers;

“(iv) the project team of each recipient is competent in the construction and operation of the gasification technology proposed; and

“(v) each recipient has met such other criteria as may be established and published by the Secretary.

“(4) USE OF LOAN FUNDS.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—Subject to subparagraph (B), funds from a loan provided under this section may be used to pay up to 100 percent of the costs of capital associated with reducing lifecycle greenhouse gas emissions at the facility (including carbon dioxide capture, compression, and long-term storage, cogeneration, and gasification of biomass) carried out as part of an eligible project.

“(B) TOTAL PROJECT COST.—Funds from a loan provided under this section may not be used to pay more than 50 percent of the total cost of an eligible project.

“(5) RATES, TERMS, AND REPAYMENT OF LOANS.—A loan provided under this section—

“(A) shall have an interest rate that, as of the date on which the loan is made, is equal to the cost of funds to the Department of the Treasury for obligations of comparable maturity;

“(B) shall have a term equal to the lesser of—

“(i) the projected life, in years, of the eligible project to be carried out using funds from the loan, as determined by the Secretary; and

“(ii) 25 years;

“(C) may be subject to a deferral in repayment for not more than 5 years after the

date on which the eligible project carried out using funds from the loan first begins operations, as determined by the Secretary; and

“(D) shall be made on the condition that the Secretary shall be subrogated to the rights of the recipient of the payment as specified in the loan or related agreements, including, as appropriate, the authority (notwithstanding any other provision of law)—

“(i) to complete, maintain, operate, lease, or otherwise dispose of any property acquired pursuant to the guarantee or a related agreement; or

“(ii) to permit the borrower, pursuant to an agreement with the Secretary, to continue to pursue the purposes of the project, if the Secretary determines the pursuit to be in the public interest.

“(6) **METHODOLOGY.**—Not later than 18 months after the date of enactment of this section, the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency shall, by regulation, establish a methodology for use in determining the lifecycle greenhouse gas emissions of products produced using gasification technology.

“(d) **STUDY OF MAINTAINING COAL-TO-LIQUID PRODUCTS IN STRATEGIC PETROLEUM RESERVE.**—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this section, the Secretary and the Secretary of Defense shall—

“(1) conduct a study of the feasibility and suitability of maintaining coal-to-liquid products in the Strategic Petroleum Reserve; and

“(2) submit to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources and the Committee on Armed Services of the Senate and the Committee on Energy and Commerce and the Committee on Armed Services of the House of Representatives a report describing the results of the study.

“(e) **REPORT ON EMISSIONS OF COAL-TO-LIQUID PRODUCTS USED AS TRANSPORTATION FUELS.**—

“(1) **IN GENERAL.**—In cooperation with the Secretary, the Secretary of Defense, the Administrator of the Federal Aviation Administration, and the Secretary of Health and Human Services, the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency shall—

“(A) carry out a research and demonstration program to evaluate the emissions of the use of coal-to-liquid fuel for transportation, including diesel and jet fuel;

“(B) evaluate the effect of using coal-to-liquid transportation fuel on emissions of vehicles, including motor vehicles and nonroad vehicles, and aircraft (as those terms are defined in sections 216 and 234, respectively, of the Clean Air Act (42 U.S.C. 7550, 7574)); and

“(C) in accordance with paragraph (4), submit to Congress a report on the effect on air and water quality, water scarcity, land use, and public health of using coal-to-liquid fuel in the transportation sector.

“(2) **GUIDANCE AND TECHNICAL SUPPORT.**—The Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency, in consultation with the Secretary, shall issue any guidance or technical support documents necessary to facilitate the effective use of coal-to-liquid fuel and blends under this subsection.

“(3) **REQUIREMENTS.**—The program described in paragraph (1)(A) shall take into consideration—

“(A) the use of neat (100 percent) coal-to-liquid fuel and blends of coal-to-liquid fuels with conventional crude oil-derived fuel for heavy-duty and light-duty diesel engines and the aviation sector;

“(B) the production costs associated with domestic production of those fuels and prices for consumers; and

“(C) the overall greenhouse gas effects of substituting coal-derived fuels for crude oil-derived fuels.

“(4) **REPORTS.**—The Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency shall submit to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources of the Senate and the Committee on Energy and Commerce of the House of Representatives—

“(A) not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this section, an interim report on actions taken to carry out this subsection; and

“(B) not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this section, a final report on actions taken to carry out this subsection.

“(f) **AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**—There are authorized to be appropriated such sums as are necessary to carry out this section.”

(b) **CONFORMING AMENDMENT.**—The table of contents of the Energy Policy Act of 1992 (42 U.S.C. prec. 13201) is amended by adding at the end of the items relating to title XXXI the following:

“Sec. 3105. Coal innovation direct loan program.”

SA 1615. Ms. COLLINS (for herself, Ms. CANTWELL, Ms. SNOWE, and Mrs. MURRAY) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 1502 proposed by Mr. REID to the bill H.R. 6, to reduce our Nation's dependency on foreign oil by investing in clean, renewable, and alternative energy resources, promoting new emerging energy technologies, developing greater efficiency, and creating a Strategic Energy Efficiency and Renewables Reserve to invest in alternative energy, and for other purposes; as follows:

At the end of title III, insert the following:

SEC. 305. ABRUPT CLIMATE CHANGE RESEARCH PROGRAM.

(a) **ESTABLISHMENT OF PROGRAM.**—The Secretary of Commerce shall establish within the Office of Oceanic and Atmospheric Research of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, and shall carry out, a program of scientific research on abrupt climate change.

(b) **PURPOSES OF PROGRAM.**—The purposes of the program are as follows:

(1) To develop a global array of terrestrial and oceanographic indicators of paleoclimate in order to sufficiently identify and describe past instances of abrupt climate change.

(2) To improve understanding of thresholds and nonlinearities in geophysical systems related to the mechanisms of abrupt climate change.

(3) To incorporate such mechanisms into advanced geophysical models of climate change.

(4) To test the output of such models against an improved global array of records of past abrupt climate changes.

(c) **ABRUPT CLIMATE CHANGE DEFINED.**—In this section, the term “abrupt climate change” means a change in the climate that occurs so rapidly or unexpectedly that human or natural systems have difficulty adapting to the climate as changed.

(d) **AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**—There is authorized to be appropriated to the Department of Commerce for each of fiscal years 2009 through 2014, to remain available until expended, \$10,000,000 to carry out the research program required under this section.

SA 1616. Mr. DURBIN (for himself and Mr. CARPER) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 1502 proposed by Mr.

REID to the bill H.R. 6, to reduce our Nation's dependency on foreign oil by investing in clean, renewable, and alternative energy resources, promoting new emerging energy technologies, developing greater efficiency, and creating a Strategic Energy Efficiency and Renewables Reserve to invest in alternative energy, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of subtitle B of title I, add the following:

SEC. 131. REPORT ON USE OF FUNDS TO REDUCE OIL AND FUEL CONSUMPTION.

(a) **REPORT; INCORPORATION OF INFORMATION INTO PLANS.**—

(1) **REPORT.**—Not later than December 1, 2008, each State and metropolitan planning organization that serves a population of 200,000 or more shall make available to the public, using the Internet and other means commonly used to inform the public, a report that describes—

(A) the ways in which the planned use of Federal funds made available under the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users (Public Law 109-59), and title 23, United States Code, to the State or metropolitan planning organization for the preceding fiscal year, including any documentation or materials assembled in the project development process on anticipated fuel and cost savings benefits, will—

(i) reduce the demand for gasoline and diesel fuels; and

(ii) lower household transportation expenditures; and

(B)(i) the number of residences, jobs, and shopping venues within the State or metropolitan area, as applicable, that are located within ½ of a mile of any transit or intercity rail transportation station or stop; and

(ii) with respect to transit and intercity rail stations and stops described in clause (i)—

(I) the frequency of transit or intercity rail transportation service; and

(II) a description of whether the transit and intercity rail stations and stops are safely accessible by pedestrians.

(2) **INCORPORATION OF INFORMATION INTO PLANS.**—For fiscal year 2009 and each fiscal year thereafter, each State and metropolitan planning organization described in paragraph (1) shall consider and include in any update or revision of the transportation improvement program of the State or metropolitan planning organization the information required to be included in the report submitted under paragraph (1).

(b) **INFORMATION, DATA, AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE.**—The Secretary, with assistance from the Bureau of Transportation Statistics, Bureau of Labor Statistics, and other Federal agencies, shall provide to States and metropolitan planning organizations any information, data, and technical assistance that would assist the States and metropolitan planning organizations in preparing the report under subsection (a)(1).

(c) **REPORT ON FUEL SAVINGS.**—Not later than July 1, 2009, the Secretary shall submit to Congress a report that describes any cumulative savings in fuel, the most effective fuel savings measures, and any other benefits identified by the States and metropolitan planning organizations, from the use of Federal funds made available under the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users (Public Law 109-59) during each of fiscal years 2008 and 2009.

SA 1617. Mr. TESTER submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to

amendment SA 1502 proposed by Mr. REID to the bill H.R. 6, to reduce our Nation's dependency on foreign oil by investing in clean, renewable, and alternative energy resources, promoting new emerging energy technologies, developing greater efficiency, and creating a Strategic Energy Efficiency and Renewables Reserve to invest in alternative energy, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of title III, add the following:

SEC. 305. PROPOSED REGULATORY PLAN.

(a) **IN GENERAL.**—Not later than 2 years after the date of enactment of this Act, the President, acting through the Chairman of the Council on Environmental Quality, shall develop a proposed regulatory plan for the long-term geologic storage of carbon dioxide.

(b) **CONSULTATION.**—In developing the proposed regulatory plan, the Chairman of the Council on Environmental Quality shall consult with—

- (1) the Secretary of the Interior;
- (2) the Secretary of Agriculture;
- (3) the Secretary of Energy;
- (4) the Secretary of Transportation;
- (5) the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency;
- (6) the Chairman of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission;
- (7) the Attorney General; and
- (8) such other officials as the Chairman of the Council on Environmental Quality determines to be appropriate.

(c) **CONTENTS.**—The proposed regulatory plan shall include—

(1) a recommended performance standard for long-term geologic storage of carbon dioxide, including—

(A) a minimum period of time that carbon dioxide stored in a geologic formation will remain in the formation without substantial leakage to the atmosphere; and

(B) a maximum percentage of acceptable leakage from a formation over the minimum storage period;

(2) recommended standards for certifying geologic storage sites, which standards shall—

(A) include criteria for site selection and management of long-term storage in each of the types of geologic settings described in section 963(c)(3)(A) of the Energy Policy Act of 2005 (42 U.S.C. 16293(c)(3)(A)); and

(B) ensure that carbon dioxide stored in a geologic storage site shall not—

(i) present a substantial threat to the health or safety of the public or the environment; or

(ii) present a substantial risk of leakage in a quantity in excess of the maximum acceptable leakage rate recommended under paragraph (1)(B);

(3) recommended standards and best practices for the injection of carbon dioxide into, and the management of, geologic storage sites to ensure the suitability of long-term storage;

(4) a proposed regulatory framework for the leasing of Federal land or an interest in land for the long-term geologic storage of carbon dioxide that ensures that—

(A) the views of adjacent residents, landowners, and the general public are heard and considered;

(B) the quality of scientific, scenic, historical, ecological, environmental, air, atmospheric, water resource, and archeological values of the Federal land or an interest in land overlaying a geologic storage site are protected; and

(C) the United States receives fair market value for the use of Federal land or an interest in land for the long-term storage of carbon dioxide;

(5) a report on the potential for any legal liability that may arise out of, or result from, a release of carbon dioxide from a long-term geologic storage site (on Federal or non-Federal land) that may result in bodily injury, sickness, disease, or death, the loss of or damage to property, or the loss of use of property, including—

(A) the likelihood of a release resulting in legal liability;

(B) the maximum amount of legal liability;

(C) the commercial availability of financial protection from legal liability; and

(D) recommendations for additional legislation that may be needed to—

(i) provide financial protection to persons storing carbon dioxide at Federal sites; or

(ii) compensate the public from any harm to 1 or more persons or property resulting from the release of carbon dioxide at a long-term geologic storage site; and

(6) a prioritized list of—

(A) Federal sites that are geologically suitable for storage of carbon dioxide; and

(B) the locations at which carbon dioxide may be stored without adversely affecting the use for which the site was reserved or acquired.

(d) **REPORT TO CONGRESS.**—Not later than 2 years after the date of enactment of this Act, the President shall submit the proposed regulatory plan to appropriate committees of Congress, including—

(1) the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources of the Senate;

(2) the Committee on Environment and Public Works of the Senate;

(3) the Committee on Energy and Commerce of the House of Representatives; and

(4) the Committee on Natural Resources of the House of Representatives.

(e) **EFFECT ON OTHER LAWS.**—Nothing in this section modifies or otherwise affects the authority of a Federal land management agency to manage land under the jurisdiction of the agency in accordance with applicable law.

SA 1618. Mr. INHOFE submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 6, to reduce our Nation's dependency on foreign oil by investing in clean, renewable, and alternative energy resources, promoting new emerging energy technologies, developing greater efficiency, and creating a Strategic Energy Efficiency and Renewables Reserve to invest in alternative energy, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. __. ELECTION TO EXPENSE THREE DIMENSIONAL SEISMIC DATA EXPENDITURES.

(a) **IN GENERAL.**—Part VI of subchapter B of chapter 1 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 is amended by inserting after section 179E the following new section:

“SEC. 179F. ELECTION TO EXPENSE THREE DIMENSIONAL SEISMIC DATA EXPENDITURES.

“(a) **TREATMENT AS EXPENSES.**—Notwithstanding section 167(h), a taxpayer may elect to treat 100 percent of the cost of any qualified three dimensional seismic data expenditure as an expense which is not chargeable to capital account. Any cost so treated shall be allowed as a deduction for the taxable year in which the qualified three dimensional seismic data expenditure is made.

“(b) **ELECTION.**—

“(1) **IN GENERAL.**—An election under this section for any taxable year shall be made on the taxpayer's return of the tax imposed by

this chapter for the taxable year. Such election shall specify any three dimensional seismic data expenditure to which the election applies and shall be made in such manner as the Secretary may by regulations prescribe.

“(2) **ELECTION IRREVOCABLE.**—Any election made under this section may not be revoked except with the consent of the Secretary.

“(c) **QUALIFIED THREE DIMENSIONAL SEISMIC DATA EXPENDITURE.**—For purposes of this section, the term ‘qualified three dimensional seismic data expenditure’ means any geological and geophysical expenses described in section 167(h)(1) paid or incurred in connection with the collection, processing, or interpretation of three dimensional seismic data.

“(d) **COORDINATION WITH SECTION 179.**—No expenditures shall be taken into account under subsection (a) with respect to the portion of the cost of any property specified in an election under section 179.”.

(b) **CROSS REFERENCE.**—Section 167(h) of such Code (relating to amortization of geological and geophysical expenditures) is amended by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

“(6) **TREATMENT OF THREE DIMENSIONAL SEISMIC DATA EXPENDITURES.**—For the treatment of geological and geophysical expenses relating to three dimensional seismic data expenditures, see section 179F.”.

(c) **CLERICAL AMENDMENT.**—The table of sections for part VI of subchapter B of chapter 1 of such Code is amended by inserting after the item relating to section 179E the following new item:

“Sec. 179F. Election to expense three dimensional seismic data expenditures.”.

(d) **EFFECTIVE DATE.**—The amendments made by this section shall apply to expenditures paid or incurred in taxable years beginning after December 31, 2007.

SA 1619. Mr. INHOFE submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 1502 proposed by Mr. REID to the bill H.R. 6, to reduce our Nation's dependency on foreign oil by investing in clean, renewable, and alternative energy resources, promoting new emerging energy technologies, developing greater efficiency, and creating a Strategic Energy Efficiency and Renewables Reserve to invest in alternative energy, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. __. ELIMINATION OF TAXABLE INCOME LIMIT ON PERCENTAGE DEPLETION FOR OIL AND NATURAL GAS PRODUCED FROM MARGINAL PROPERTIES.

(a) **IN GENERAL.**—Subparagraph (H) of section 613A(c)(6) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 (relating to oil and natural gas produced from marginal properties) is amended to read as follows:

“(H) **NONAPPLICATION OF TAXABLE INCOME LIMIT WITH RESPECT TO MARGINAL PRODUCTION.**—The second sentence of subsection (a) of section 613 shall not apply to so much of the allowance for depletion as is determined under subparagraph (A).”.

(b) **EFFECTIVE DATE.**—The amendment made by this section shall apply to taxable years beginning after December 31, 2006.

SA 1620. Mr. INHOFE submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 6, to reduce our Nation's dependency on foreign oil by

investing in clean, renewable, and alternative energy resources, promoting new emerging energy technologies, developing greater efficiency, and creating a Strategic Energy Efficiency and Renewables Reserve to invest in alternative energy, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. —. INCREASE OF BARRELS PER DAY AND CUBIC FEET LIMITATIONS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 613A(c) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 (relating to exemption for independent producers and royalty owners) is amended—

(1) by striking “1,000” in paragraph (3)(B) and inserting “1,500”, and

(2) by striking “6,000” in paragraph (4) and inserting “9,000”.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to taxable years beginning after December 31, 2007.

SA 1621. Mr. INHOFE submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 6, to reduce our Nation’s dependency on foreign oil by investing in clean, renewable, and alternative energy resources, promoting new emerging energy technologies, developing greater efficiency, and creating a Strategic Energy Efficiency and Renewables Reserve to invest in alternative energy, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. —. INCREASED PHASEOUT THRESHOLD CREDIT FOR PRODUCING OIL AND GAS FROM MARGINAL WELLS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 45I(b)(2)(A) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 (relating to reduction as oil and gas prices increase) is amended—

(1) in clause (i)—

(A) by striking “\$15” and inserting “\$22”, and

(B) by striking “\$1.67” and inserting “\$2.50”, and

(2) by striking “\$0.33” in clause (ii) and inserting “\$0.30”.

(b) AMENDMENT OF INFLATION ADJUSTMENT.—Subparagraph (B) of section 45I(b)(2) of such Code (relating to inflation adjustment) is amended—

(1) by striking “2005” and inserting “2008”, and

(2) by striking “2004” and inserting “2007”.

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to taxable years beginning after December 31, 2007.

SA 1622. Mr. INHOFE submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 6, to reduce our Nation’s dependency on foreign oil by investing in clean, renewable, and alternative energy resources, promoting new emerging energy technologies, developing greater efficiency, and creating a Strategic Energy Efficiency and Renewables Reserve to invest in alternative energy, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. —. INCREASE OF BARRELS PER DAY LIMITATION FOR THE SMALL REFINER EXCEPTION.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 613A(d)(4) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 (relating to ex-

clusion of certain refiners) is amended by striking “75,000” and inserting “100,000”.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by this section shall apply to taxable years beginning after December 31, 2007.

ORDER FOR RECORD TO REMAIN OPEN

Mr. DORGAN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent the record remain open today until 1 p.m., notwithstanding an adjournment of the Senate, for the submission of statements, cosponsorships, and introduction of legislation.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

ORDERS FOR MONDAY, JUNE 18, 2007

Mr. DORGAN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it stand adjourned until 2 p.m. on Monday, June 18; that on Monday, following the prayer and the pledge, the Journal of proceedings be approved to date, the morning hour be deemed expired, and the time for the two leaders reserved for their use later in the day; that there then be a period of morning business until 3:30 p.m., with Senators permitted to speak for up to 10 minutes each and with the time equally divided and controlled between the two leaders or their designees; that following morning business the Senate then resume consideration of H.R. 6, the comprehensive energy legislation.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

ORDER FOR ADJOURNMENT

Mr. DORGAN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that notwithstanding the order for adjournment and morning business, it be in order for Senator COLLINS to call up an amendment with respect to H.R. 6, and that the consideration of that amendment and her statement thereon be printed in the RECORD as if the measure was pending, and that at the conclusion of her remarks the Senate stand adjourned under the previous order.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. DORGAN. Mr. President, I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator from Maine.

Ms. COLLINS. I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

H.R. 6—AMENDMENT NO. 1615

Ms. COLLINS. Mr. President, I call up amendment No. 1615, which is pending at the desk.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will report the amendment.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

The Senator from Maine [Ms. COLLINS], for herself and Ms. CANTWELL, Ms. SNOWE, and Mrs. MURRAY, proposes an amendment numbered 1615 to amendment No. 1502.

Ms. COLLINS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the reading of the amendment be dispensed with.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The amendment is as follows:

(Purpose: To provide for the development and coordination of a comprehensive and integrated United States research program that assists the people of the United States and the world to understand, assess, and predict human-induced and natural processes of abrupt climate change)

At the end of title III, insert the following:

SEC. 305. ABRUPT CLIMATE CHANGE RESEARCH PROGRAM.

(a) ESTABLISHMENT OF PROGRAM.—The Secretary of Commerce shall establish within the Office of Oceanic and Atmospheric Research of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, and shall carry out, a program of scientific research on abrupt climate change.

(b) PURPOSES OF PROGRAM.—The purposes of the program are as follows:

(1) To develop a global array of terrestrial and oceanographic indicators of paleoclimate in order to sufficiently identify and describe past instances of abrupt climate change.

(2) To improve understanding of thresholds and nonlinearities in geophysical systems related to the mechanisms of abrupt climate change.

(3) To incorporate such mechanisms into advanced geophysical models of climate change.

(4) To test the output of such models against an improved global array of records of past abrupt climate changes.

(c) ABRUPT CLIMATE CHANGE DEFINED.—In this section, the term “abrupt climate change” means a change in the climate that occurs so rapidly or unexpectedly that human or natural systems have difficulty adapting to the climate as changed.

(d) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There is authorized to be appropriated to the Department of Commerce for each of fiscal years 2009 through 2014, to remain available until expended, \$10,000,000 to carry out the research program required under this section.

Ms. COLLINS. Mr. President, I rise today to propose an amendment that would authorize funding for abrupt climate change research. I am very pleased to be joined on this amendment by Senator CANTWELL, Senator SNOWE, and Senator MURRAY. Our amendment would authorize \$10 million per year for the next 6 years for the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, NOAA, in partnership with universities across the Nation to conduct research into abrupt climate change.

I recognize the Senate has reached no consensus with regard to how best to respond to climate change. Nevertheless, I believe there is one issue on

which we can agree, and that is the need for a great deal more scientific research in order to better understand the potential risk of abrupt climate change.

Understanding and predicting climate changes are enormous scientific challenges. The challenges are made even more difficult with the recognition that the climate system is capable of dramatic and abrupt changes. Scientists have determined that past global temperatures have swung as much as 20 degrees Fahrenheit within a decade, accompanied by drought in some places and catastrophic floods in others.

An abrupt climate change triggered by the ongoing buildup of greenhouse gases in the atmosphere would also likely result in the redistribution of atmospheric moisture and rainfall, with substantial impact for the world's food supply.

Unfortunately, we have no satisfactory understanding of what triggers abrupt climate change. Both the National Academy of Sciences and the administration's Strategic Climate Change Science Plan identify abrupt climate change as the key priority for additional research. The National Academy has stated that:

Large, abrupt climate changes have repeatedly affected much or all of the earth.

The academy went on to state that:

Abrupt climate changes are not only possible but likely in the future, potentially with large impacts on ecosystems and societies.

The academy noted we are not doing nearly enough to identify even the threat of abrupt climate change. The amendment the four of us are proposing would lay the framework and provide the funds for the United States to better understand and address abrupt climate change. One reason this funding is so urgent is we are rapidly losing one of the greatest sources of information, and that is ice cores from glaciers.

The University of Maine's Climate Change Institute has one of the best known and best regarded abrupt climate change research programs in the

entire world, I am proud to say. The Climate Change Institute uses ice cores from glaciers and ice sheets around the world to make discoveries that change the way we think about climate change.

Unfortunately, numerous glaciers around the world are melting. When they go, the very record that has given us so much of this critical climate history will also be lost. I have had several terrific opportunities to see for myself how scientists are able to use glaciers and ice sheets to better understand climate change. Last year, I joined Senators MCCAIN and SUNUNU in traveling to Antarctica to see groundbreaking research taking place on ice more than 2 miles deep at the South Pole. Along the way, we toured some of the University of Maine's research sites in New Zealand with distinguished university professor George Denton. He was the first scientist from the University of Maine to be elected to the National Academy of Scientists.

According to Professor Denton, 50 percent of the glaciers in New Zealand have melted since 1860, and this melting is unprecedented in the last 5,000 years. We stood with the professor on sites that had been buried by massive glaciers at the beginning of the 20th century, but now they are ice free. It was remarkable to see this firsthand.

Two years ago, I traveled with a group of Senators to the northernmost community in the world, Ny-Alesund, in Norway. The scientists we met told us that global climate change is occurring more rapidly now than at any time since the beginning of civilization. They further stated that the region of the globe changing most rapidly is the Arctic. In fact, the Arctic, in many ways, is the proverbial canary in the coal mine when it comes to climate change. The changes are remarkable and disturbing.

In the last 30 years, the Arctic has lost sea ice cover over an area 10 times as large as the entire State of Maine. In the summer, the change has been even more dramatic with twice as much ice loss. The ice that remains is

as much as 40 percent thinner than it was only a few decades ago.

Senator MCCAIN and others and I witnessed massive blocks of ice falling off glaciers that have already retreated well back from the shores against which they once rested. The melting of glaciers and sea ice, the thawing of the permafrost, the increase in sea levels resulting from warming, are already beginning to cause environmental, social, and economic changes.

In Barrow, AK, for example, we met with native people who told us they are seeing insects they have never seen that far north before. They told us the salmon run has changed. We saw telephone poles that were tilted over because, for the first time, the permafrost is thawing. The changes were very evident and they are very troubling in many cases. If these changes were to be compounded by an abrupt climate change on the scale seen in our history, the result could be devastating.

The amendment I am proposing has passed the Senate twice before, as part of the 2001 and the 2003 Energy bills, and was initially included in the managers' package this year. I hope this is the year we finally pass this important provision into law.

We need to act now. We need to authorize this funding so we can gain a better understanding of the possibility of abrupt climate change causing enormous and relatively rapid changes in our climate.

I urge my colleagues to support the amendment.

Mr. President, I yield the floor.

ADJOURNMENT UNTIL MONDAY,
JUNE 18, 2007, at 2 p.m.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, the Senate stands adjourned until 2 p.m. on Monday, June 18, 2007.

Thereupon, the Senate, at 11:57 a.m., adjourned until Monday, June 18, 2007, at 2 p.m.

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

A TRIBUTE TO MARCUS JOHNSON

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 15, 2007

Mr. TOWNS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor New York City Police Officer Marcus Johnson. Marcus was born in Tuskegee, Alabama but raised in Brooklyn, Crown Heights. He attended Washington Irving High School in Manhattan and later graduated from Deborah Cannon Wolfe High School in Shorter, Alabama.

Marcus Johnson returned to New York City after his high school graduation and worked for the corporate law firm of Davis, Polk, and Wardwell. There, he was the supervisor in the mail division overseeing the office's incoming and outgoing Federal Express, DHL, Airborne Express, as well as interoffice courier services.

Marcus Johnson later enrolled in the Borough of Manhattan Community College, immediately following that enrollment, he was accepted into the New York City Police Academy. Upon his graduation from the academy, he was assigned to the 75th Precinct where he initially worked as a patrol officer. He became known for his southern hospitality, speaking and waving as he patrolled the community.

Marcus Johnson's work in his precinct did not stop there. He also worked as an evidence control specialist/property officer, highway safety officer, burglary apprehension team officer, crime prevention officer and he now holds the position of community affairs officer.

Marcus Johnson is a member of the National Organization of Black Law Enforcement Executives, NOBLE. He holds the office of co-Chair of the Dinner Scholarship and Dance Committee. He is married to Ayicha Johnson and they have three children, Mikhyle, Marque, and Myles.

Madam Speaker, I would like to recognize Officer Marcus Johnson of the New York City Police Department for his work in keeping our community safe.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in paying tribute to a kind man who takes pride in the work he does for our city.

INTRODUCTION OF THE HONEST MONEY ACT

HON. RON PAUL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 15, 2007

Mr. PAUL. Madam Speaker, I rise to introduce the Honest Money Act. The Honest Money Act repeals legal tender laws that force American citizens to accept fiat money in their economic transactions.

Absent legal tender laws, individuals acting through the market will determine what is

money. Historically, when individuals have been free to choose their money they have selected items that are portable, widely accepted, and have a stable value. Having the market, rather than the government, define money is integral to the functioning of a free economy. As Edwin Vieira, perhaps the Nation's top expert on constitutional monetary policy says, "... a free market functions most efficiently and most fairly when the market determines the quality and the quantity of money that's being used."

While fiat money produced by the State is portable and, thanks to legal tender laws, widely accepted, it is certainly not of stable value. In fact, our entire monetary policy is predicated on the government's ability to manipulate the value of the currency. Thus, absent legal tender laws, many citizens would refuse to accept government money for their transactions.

Legal tender laws disadvantage ordinary citizens by forcing them to use inferior money, which they would otherwise refuse. As Stephen T. Byington put in the September 1895 issue of the American Federationist: "No legal tender law is ever needed to make men take good money; its only use is to make them take bad money. Kick it out!"

It may seem surprising that the Mr. Byington's well-phrased attack on legal tender laws appeared in the publication of the American Federation of Labor. However, enlightened union leaders of that time recognized that ways in which workers were harmed by the erosion of the value of money which inevitably follows when governments pass legal tender laws.

Legal tender laws may disadvantage average citizens but they do help power-hungry politicians use inflationary monetary policy to expand the government beyond its proper limits. However, the primary beneficiaries of legal tender laws are the special interests who are granted the privilege of producing and controlling the paper money forced on the public via legal tender laws. Legal tender laws thus represent the primary means of reverse redistribution where the wealth of the working class is given, via laws forcing people to use debased money, to well-heeled, politically powerful bankers.

The drafters of the Constitution were well aware of how a government armed with legal tender powers could ravage the people's liberty and prosperity. This is why the Constitution does not grant legal tender powers to the federal government. Instead, Congress was given powers to establish standards regarding the value of money. In other words, in monetary matters the Congress was to follow the lead of the market. When Alexander Hamilton wrote the coinage act of 1792, he simply adopted the market-definition of a dollar as equaling the value of the Spanish milled silver coin.

Legal tender laws have reversed that order to where the market follows the lead of Congress. Beginning in the 19th century, Federal politicians sought to enhance their power and

enrich their cronies, by using legal tender powers to change the definition of a dollar from a silver-or-gold-backed unit whose value is determined by the market, to a piece of paper produced by the State. The "value" of this paper may be normally backed in part by gold or silver, but its ultimate backing is the power of the State, and its value is determined by the political needs of the State and the powerful special interests who influence monetary policy.

Unfortunately, the Supreme Court failed to protect the American people from Congress' unconstitutional legal tender laws. Supreme Court Justice, and Lincoln Treasury Secretary, Salmon Chase, writing in dissent in the legal tender cases, summed up the main reason why the Founders did not grant Congress the authority to pass legal tender laws: "The legal tender quality [of money] is only valuable for the purposes of dishonesty." Justice Chase might have added dishonesty is perpetrated by State-favored interests on the average American.

Another prescient Justice was Stephen Field, the only justice to dissent in every one of the legal tender cases to come before the Court. Justice Field accurately described the dangers to the constitutional republic posed by legal tender laws: "The arguments in favor of the constitutionality of legal tender paper currency tend directly to break down the barriers which separate a government of limited powers from a government resting in the unrestrained will of Congress. Those limitations must be preserved, or our government will inevitably drift from the system established by our Fathers into a vast, centralized and consolidated government."

Considering the growth of government since the Supreme Court joined Congress in disregarding the constitutional barriers to legal tender laws, can anyone doubt the accuracy of Justice Field's words? Repeal of legal tender laws would restore constitutional government and protect the people's right to use a currency chosen by the market because it serves the needs of the people, instead of having to use a currency chosen by the State because it serves the needs of power hungry politicians and special interests. Therefore, I urge my colleges to cosponsor the Honest Money Act.

HONORING WEBSTER P. PHILLIPS, A DISTINGUISHED EXECUTIVE AT THE SOCIAL SECURITY ADMINISTRATION

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 15, 2007

Mr. RANGEL. Madam Speaker, today I rise, on behalf of myself and Ways and Means Ranking Member JIM MCCREERY, to recognize Webster Phillips, a distinguished executive at the Social Security Administration. Mr. Phillips

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

is Associate Commissioner for Legislative Development. On July 3, he will retire after a career of public service spanning more than 30 years.

Mr. Phillips began his public service as a member of the United States Army. After his military service, which included a tour of duty in Vietnam, he began his career in the Social Security Administration as a Claims Representative in the local office in Alton, IL. He was promoted to the Operations Supervisor in the Rock Island, IL Social Security office in 1980. In 1983, Web was selected as a management intern and completed a series of developmental assignments in the Chicago Regional Office and in SSA Headquarters in Baltimore. In 1987, Web moved to Baltimore and joined the staff of the Office of Legislation and Congressional Affairs. Since 1995, Web has been assigned to SSA's Legislative Affairs Office in Washington. He was selected to serve in his current position as Associate Commissioner of Legislative Development in February 1999.

Ways and Means Committee Members and staff of both parties have had the pleasure of working with Web on many issues relating to Social Security during his tenure at SSA. The Subcommittee on Social Security, in particular, has benefited greatly from Web's in-depth knowledge of all aspects of Social Security policy and operations. Web has been unfailingly responsive and professional, and always provides Members and Committee staff with timely, accurate, and thorough information and analysis. Of special note is his contribution to the development of the legislation, enacted by Congress in 1994, that established the Social Security Administration as an independent agency.

It is important that we in Congress recognize the men and women who devote their working lives to improving the lives of others. Career civil servants usually do their work in quiet anonymity behind the scenes, but provide vital service to the Congress and the American people. Webster Phillips is one of those people. His record of leadership at the Social Security Administration and his commitment to providing the American people with effective and compassionate service is a record of which he can be justly proud.

We wish Web all the best in his retirement from the Social Security Administration and thank him for his many years of dedicated federal service.

TRIBUTE TO HAMILTON COUNTY, WEBSTER CITY, AND THE WEBSTER CITY DAILY FREEMAN-JOURNAL

HON. TOM LATHAM

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 15, 2007

Mr. LATHAM. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Hamilton County, Webster City, and the Webster City Daily Freeman-Journal on their 150th year anniversary. Hamilton County is located in north central Iowa and is home to approximately 16,500 people. It was named in honor of William W. Hamilton, who served as President of the Iowa State Senate from 1856–1857. Hamilton County was home to MacKinlay Kantor who won the Pul-

itzer Prize for Fiction in 1956 for his novel *Andersonville*.

The county seat of Hamilton County is Webster City, which is located along the Boone River. The city was started by Wilson Brewer when he built a log cabin by the Boone River. Brewer and William Flakes platted the town of Newcastle, which was later sold for \$22,000 to Walter Wilson and his brother Sumler. Wilson was eventually elected State representative; in that capacity he requested the help of William Hamilton to divide the rather large county of Webster into two counties, Webster and Hamilton. The act of January 1, 1857 officially changed the city name from Newcastle to Webster City.

Throughout its long tenure The Daily Freeman-Journal has provided excellent national, state, and local news coverage to the people of Webster City and Hamilton County. The Daily Freeman-Journal is Hamilton County's longest continuously operating business. Throughout its history, the paper has won numerous awards including the Governor's Volunteer Award, Outstanding Outreach/Community Service Newspaper, numerous advertising awards, and several best page awards.

Again, I congratulate Hamilton County, Webster City, and The Daily Freeman-Journal on this historic anniversary.

RECOGNIZING AND WELCOMING THE DELEGATION OF PRESIDENTS, PRIME MINISTERS, AND FOREIGN MINISTERS FROM THE CARIBBEAN TO WASHINGTON, DC

SPEECH OF

HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 11, 2007

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to welcome an impressive delegation of Presidents, Prime Ministers, and Foreign Ministers from the Caribbean to Washington, DC for the first "Conference on the Caribbean" through the coordination of the Caribbean Community (CARICOM), the State Department, and Congress.

This multifaceted and dynamic region is strikingly promising, offering an array of opportunities. CARICOM is committed to enhancing economic integration through a common market and common trade policies. Members of this organization are also committed to increasing their functional cooperation by pooling resources and services in the area of human and social development, as well as coordinating foreign policy objectives that make a concerted stride for regional advancement.

The fact that this meeting is taking place in our Nation's capitol is indeed something that I applaud. However, I would be remiss if I did not emphasize the concentrated costs associated with developing an institutional framework needed to secure deeper regional integration. Therefore, it is essential that the international community invests in the socioeconomic infrastructure of this lucrative region in order to increase competitiveness and development. Aggressively pursuing partnerships and seizing opportunities to open markets are instrumental in securing a progressive future for this often ignored region.

This fortified partnership is much needed to address plaguing social dilemmas that warrant

international attention. As HIV/AIDS, crime, and poverty ripple through the Caribbean region, we must be compelled to advocate for this region's growing plights. The increasing West Indian influence in the U.S. legitimizes the need for continued U.S.-Caribbean relations. According to 2000 census data an estimated 1.9 million of the total U.S. population comes from a West Indian background.

I am proud to represent Florida's 23rd district where approximately 115,000, or 18 percent of the entire district, has a Caribbean heritage. The growing presence of West Indians in South Florida, New York, and Washington, DC, has contributed to enhancing multicultural communities that are committed to economic development and social advancement.

I applaud this important step, and look forward to working with CARICOM to improve the overall relations between the U.S. Congress and our Caribbean allies.

A TRIBUTE TO BOB JAMES

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 15, 2007

Mr. TOWNS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to an exceptional musician, Mr. Bob James. The career of Bob James is long, varied, and continues to evolve at every turn. From his first piano recital in Marshall, MO to the formation of his own trio while attending the University of Michigan to the gigs in New York City and beyond, the music of Bob James has captivated audiences throughout the world.

Bob James recorded his first solo album "Bold Conceptions" not long after he was discovered by Quincy Jones at the Notre Dame Jazz Festival in 1963. Another 25 solo albums would follow within a span of four decades. However, that does not include his Grammy Award-winning collaboration projects. However, it was not until Bob James met up with Creed Taylor in New York that his composing, arranging and recording career took off. After working with such CTI Recording artists as Hank Crawford and Grover Washington, Jr., James finally recorded his own album, "One." This introduced his music to a much larger audience and launched a lifelong career of recording and performing live.

Bob James moved to Warner Brothers Records in 1985, beginning an association with another million seller and Grammy Award-winning album "Double Vision." This album was a collaboration with David Sanborn. In 1990, while recording the "Grand Piano Canyon" album, Bob James reunited with his old friend, drummer Harvey Mason and worked for the first time with Lee Ritenour on guitar and Nathan East on bass. The recording sessions for this project were the genesis of the group "Fourplay." Their first album was recorded and released in 1991.

Bob James experienced a personal and professional career highlight when he collaborated with his daughter Hilary on the "Flesh & Blood" album. The music for the project was jointly written by the two of them. They later toured 15 U.S. cities in acoustic vocal and piano duet performances.

Madam Speaker, I cannot say enough about Mr. Bob James. He has been considerate in

sharing his gifts with the rest of the world. I would like to recognize all of his accomplishments and achievements which are far too numerous to list today.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in paying tribute to this wonderfully gifted musician.

INTRODUCTION OF THE FEDERAL RESERVE BOARD ABOLITION ACT

HON. RON PAUL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 15, 2007

Mr. PAUL. Madam Speaker, I rise to introduce legislation to restore financial stability to America's economy by abolishing the Federal Reserve. Since the creation of the Federal Reserve, middle- and working-class Americans have been victimized by a boom-and-bust monetary policy. In addition, most Americans have suffered a steadily eroding purchasing power because of the Federal Reserve's inflationary policies. This represents a real, if hidden, tax imposed on the American people.

From the Great Depression, to the stagflation of the 70s, to the burst of the dotcom bubble, every economic downturn suffered by the country over the last 80 years can be traced to Federal Reserve policy. The Fed has followed a consistent policy of flooding the economy with easy money, leading to a misallocation of resources and an artificial "boom" followed by a recession or depression when the Fed-created bubble bursts.

With a stable currency, American exporters will no longer be held hostage to an erratic monetary policy. Stabilizing the currency will also give Americans new incentives to save as they will no longer have to fear inflation eroding their savings. Those members concerned about increasing America's exports or the low rate of savings should be enthusiastic supporters of this legislation.

Though the Federal Reserve policy harms the average American, it benefits those in a position to take advantage of the cycles in monetary policy. The main beneficiaries are those who receive access to artificially inflated money and/or credit before the inflationary effects of the policy impact the entire economy. Federal Reserve policies also benefit big spending politicians who use the inflated currency created by the Fed to hide the true costs of the welfare-warfare state. It is time for Congress to put the interests of the American people ahead of special interests and their own appetite for big government.

Abolishing the Federal Reserve will allow Congress to reassert its constitutional authority over monetary policy. The United States Constitution grants to Congress the authority to coin money and regulate the value of the currency. The Constitution does not give Congress the authority to delegate control over monetary policy to a central bank. Furthermore, the Constitution certainly does not empower the Federal Government to erode the American standard of living via an inflationary monetary policy.

In fact, Congress' constitutional mandate regarding monetary policy should only permit currency backed by stable commodities such as silver and gold to be used as legal tender. Therefore, abolishing the Federal Reserve and

returning to a constitutional system will enable America to return to the type of monetary system envisioned by our Nation's founders: one where the value of money is consistent because it is tied to a commodity such as gold. Such a monetary system is the basis of a true free-market economy.

In conclusion, Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to stand up for working Americans by putting an end to the manipulation of the money supply which erodes Americans' standard of living, enlarges big government, and enriches well-connected elites, by cosponsoring my legislation to abolish the Federal Reserve.

CARIBBEAN AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH: ACKNOWLEDGING THEIR CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE UNITED STATES

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 15, 2007

Mr. RANGEL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge the exceptional contributions of Americans of Caribbean descent during the celebration of Caribbean American Heritage Month. I also recognize the special ties between the nations of the Caribbean and the United States, a relationship that will be manifest and renewed later this month in a dialogue between Heads of Government of the Caribbean and our own national leadership, led by President Bush and including members of his cabinet and the Congressional leadership as well, on June 19–21 in Washington, DC.

While the significance of Caribbean Americans to the building and advancement of America cannot be fully expressed, I will acknowledge several contributions they have made to the very fabric of our Nation.

People from the English speaking Caribbean have helped shape this great land as the earliest and largest source of Black immigrants to the United States. Caribbean Americans such as Virgin Islander Edward Blyden, along with West Indian Americans George Padmore, Marcus Garvey and Claude McKay influenced the course of civil rights in America. The contributions of these individuals alone comprise over one hundred years of writing, empowering, and engaging the policies and values that serve as the cornerstones of this country.

The founder of Chicago, Jean Baptiste Point du Sable, was born in Haiti, and Shirley Chisholm, the first African-American woman elected to Congress, is also of Caribbean ancestry. Colin Powell, the first African-American Secretary of State, is of Jamaican heritage.

Today, Caribbean Americans continue to serve as catalysts for change by serving in local, State and Federal Government, among which include Congresswoman BARBARA LEE, who introduced the legislation in the House to recognize Caribbean American Heritage Month and Congresswoman YVETTE CLARKE, who served as the first Director of Business Development for the Bronx Empowerment Zone.

Caribbean-Americans have fought to protect and defend our Nation during times of war. In the struggle for American Independence, over 500 Haitians joined colonial troops against the

British at the Siege of Savannah. In response to President George W. Bush's current efforts to assist a young and fragile democracy, hundreds of Caribbean-Americans fight in the U.S. Armed Forces to bring stability in Iraq.

In business, education, law enforcement, entertainment, sports, religion, and public service, the force of Caribbean-Americans has energized the Nation to achieve superiority in the international community. I invite my colleagues to join with me in celebrating the contributions of people of Caribbean descent and in support of H. Res. 418 commending the Caribbean Community (CARICOM) for holding the Conference on the Caribbean in Washington, DC, from June 19 to 21.

TRIBUTE TO REBEKAH FRESE

HON. TOM LATHAM

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 15, 2007

Mr. LATHAM. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate a student from Lenihan Intermediate School in Marshalltown, IA.

Rebekah Frese has been selected to present her award winning history project at the Smithsonian National Museum of America. Rebekah's project was one of a handful selected by the National History Day program from hundreds of thousands nationwide.

Each project reflected on this year's National History Day theme, "Triumph and Tragedy in History." Rebekah's project highlighted the underground railroad in the State of Iowa. Iowa had numerous locations on the underground railroad actively assisting runaway slaves to reach Canada and freedom. In taverns, houses, and cellars throughout the State, fleeing slaves were able to realize a few hours of security and rest thanks to the great Iowans who risked their own lives and property to befriend and protect the fleeing slaves.

Rebekah's teachers, Millie Frese and Karen Roessler, are also to be commended and congratulated for this accomplishment. They have instilled the importance and value of history in their students as an integral part of the education of Rebekah, her classmates, and future generations of Iowans.

RECOGNIZING JOHN PEHLE FOR HIS CONTRIBUTIONS IN HELPING RESCUE JEWS AND OTHER MINORITIES FROM THE HOLOCAUST

SPEECH OF

HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 11, 2007

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Mr. Speaker, while we often celebrate the efforts of those who admirably risked their lives to protect others during the Holocaust, there remain many whose efforts have gone largely unnoticed. The American Government officials who helped create the War Refugee Board may not have put their lives in danger, but their efforts on behalf of the victims of Nazi power helped save thousands.

As early as 1942, our Government had received extensive, credible information confirming the atrocities being committed against

Jews and other minorities throughout Europe. In spite of these substantiated reports of Nazi instigated genocide, the United States Government refused to assist those in need of our help, choosing instead to pursue a policy tantamount to acquiescence.

John Pehle, a young lawyer in the Treasury Department, however, chose to act. He, along with Josiah Dubois, Assistant General Counsel of the Treasury Department, and Treasury Secretary Henry Morgenthau, took it upon themselves to ensure the American Government not only acknowledged the crimes being committed in Europe, but also played an active role in aiding those suffering at the hands of Adolf Hitler and his Nazi collaborators. In 1943, they presented a memorandum to President Franklin D. Roosevelt urging him to take immediate action to assist the victims of Nazi crimes.

Largely as a result of these men's efforts, President Roosevelt created the War Refugee Board on January 22, 1944. Roosevelt stated that through the work of the Board, the United States would "take all measures within its power to rescue the victims of enemy oppression . . . to afford such victims all possible relief and assistance." Despite its monumental mission, the War Refugee Board was only comprised of 30 employees and allocated \$1 million to carry out its tasks.

With the generous financial assistance of thousands of American Jews and others, the War Refugee Board was able to save as many as 200,000 Jews and other persecuted minorities. Of those, 15,000 were evacuated from areas controlled by Germany and its allies, 48,000 were transferred from Transnistria to safe areas of Romania, and at least another 10,000 were protected throughout other parts of Axis Europe by War Refugee Board funded underground activities. Additionally, through their assistance to the International Red Cross, the War Refugee Board helped to provide food parcels to civilians in internment camps as well as support and protection for some 3,000,000 Allied and Axis prisoners of war.

In passing this legislation, the House will recognize not only the noble efforts of the War Refugee Board, but also the efforts of those Government officials who made it their personal mission to ensure that America's policies abroad reflected our Nation's ideals of justice and compassion. The work of John Pehle, Henry Morgenthau, Josiah Dubois, and the War Refugee Board embodied the American tradition of reaching out to those most in need and helped make America the beacon of hope it has come to symbolize for so many.

Mr. Speaker, at a time when America's moral authority is questioned as strongly as it is today, it is important to remember those Americans in our history who have worked tirelessly to ensure the United States meets the ethical responsibility that comes with our standing in the world.

A TRIBUTE TO EVERETTE HUGHES

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 15, 2007

Mr. TOWNS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute and honor to the work of

Everette Hughes as an educator in the New York City Public Schools. Everette migrated to Brooklyn in 1968. He received an academic scholarship to Pace University where he earned a Bachelor's Degree in Secondary Education. He continued his studies at Long Island University and Brooklyn College where he earned a Masters in Sociology, a Masters in Special Education, and a Masters in Administration and Supervision.

Everette Hughes has been an educator in the New York City Public School system for 29 years. He is currently a Calm Fellow at Teachers College, Columbia University where he is pursuing a Doctorate in Educational Leadership.

Everette Hughes began his career teaching and later served in a variety of roles in both teaching and administration that led to his current position of Principal at Intermediate School 292 in East New York. Under his sound leadership and guidance, the school has become increasingly known for its academic excellence, complemented by a strong performing arts program. Mr. Hughes also works closely with community-based organizations to raise the consciousness of the students with whose care he is entrusted daily.

Everette Hughes has currently undertaken a project which focuses on building a charitable foundation to help underprivileged children in Africa. During his annual winter breaks, he and several other educators journey to countries like Nigeria, Senegal and Gambia where they attempt to uplift the quality of life for the residents through education. He has visited schools and paid tuition for more than 200 students allowing them an opportunity to successfully complete their secondary education.

Madam Speaker, I would like to recognize Everette Hughes for his continuing dedication to the world's children as well as those children in our community.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in paying tribute to Everette Hughes.

INTRODUCTION OF THE SUNSHINE IN MONETARY POLICY ACT

HON. RON PAUL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 15, 2007

Mr. PAUL. Madam Speaker, I rise to introduce the Sunshine in Monetary Policy Act, which requires the Federal Reserve to resume reporting the monetary measure known as M3. M3 consists of M1, M1 is currency in circulation plus travelers' checks, demand deposits, Negotiable Order of Withdrawal, NOW, accounts, and similar interest-earning checking account balances; M2, M2 is M1 plus household holdings of savings deposits, small time deposits, and retail money market mutual funds balances except for balances held in IRA and Keogh accounts, plus institutional money market mutual fund balances and managed liabilities of deposits consisting of large time deposits, repurchase agreements, and Eurodollars.

The Federal Reserve Board ceased reporting M3 on March 22, 2006, thus depriving Congress and the American people of the most comprehensive measure of the money supply. The cessation of the Federal Reserve's weekly M3 report will make it more dif-

ficult for policymakers, economists, investors, and the general public to learn the true rate of inflation. As Nobel laureate Milton Friedman famously said, "inflation is always and everywhere a monetary phenomenon." Therefore, having access to a comprehensive measure of the money supply like M3 is a vital tool for those seeking to track inflation. Thorsten Polleit, honorary professor at HfB-Business School of Finance and Management, in his article "Why Money Supply Matters" posted on the Ludwig von Mises Institute's Web site mises.org, examined the relationship between changes in the money supply and inflation and concluded that "money supply signals might actually be far more important for inflation—even in the short-term—than current central bank practice suggests," thus demonstrating the importance of the M3 aggregate.

The Federal Reserve Board has claimed neither policymakers nor the Federal Reserve staff closely tracked M3. Even if M3 was not used by Federal Reserve Board economists or legislators, many financial services professionals whose livelihoods depend on their ability to obtain accurate information about the money supply relied on M3. For example, my office has been contacted by a professional money manager complaining that the Federal Reserve Board's discontinuing M3 reports would make it difficult for him to do his job.

Whatever lack of interest policymakers are currently displaying, in M3 is no doubt related to the mistaken perception that the Federal Reserve Board has finally figured out how to effectively manage a fiat currency. This illusion exists largely because the effects of the Fed's inflationary policies are concentrated in malinvestments in specific sectors of the economy, leading to "bubbles" such as the one that occurred in the stock market in the late nineties and the bubble that many believe is occurring in the current real estate market. When monetary inflation is reflected in sector-specific bubbles, it is easier to pretend that the bubbles are caused by problems specific to those sectors, instead of reflecting the problems inherent in a fiat currency system. Once the damage to our economy done by our reliance on fiat currency becomes clear, I am certain that policymakers will once again take more interest in M3.

Economists and others who are following M3 have become increasingly concerned about inflation because in 2005 the rate of M3 rose almost twice as fast as other monetary aggregates. This suggests that the inflation picture is not as rosy as the Federal Reserve would like Congress and the American people to believe. Discontinuing reporting the monetary aggregate that provides the best evidence that the Federal Reserve Board has not conquered inflation suggested to many people that the government was trying to conceal information about the true state of the economy from the American people. Brad Conrad, a professor of investing who has also worked with IBM, CDC, and Amdahl, spoke for many when he said, "It [the discontinuance of M3] is unsettling. It detracts from the transparency the Fed preaches and adds to the suspicion that the Fed wants to hide anything showing money growth high enough to fuel inflation . . ."

Discontinuing reporting M3 was only expected to save 0.0000699 percent of the Federal Reserve Board's yearly budget. This savings hardly seems to justify depriving the

American people of an important measurement of money supply, especially since Congress has tasked the Federal Reserve Board with reporting on monetary aggregates. Discontinuing reporting M3 may not be a violation of the letter of the Federal Reserve Board's statutory duty, but it is a violation of the spirit of the congressional command that the Federal Reserve Board ensure the American public is fully informed about the effects of monetary policy.

Madam Speaker, knowledge of the money supply is one of the keys to understanding the state of the economy. The least the American people should expect from the Federal Reserve Board is complete and accurate information regarding the money supply. I urge my colleagues to ensure that the American people can obtain that information by cosponsoring the Sunshine in Monetary Policy Act.

FREEDOM SCHOONER "AMISTAD" TRANSATLANTIC VOYAGE

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 15, 2007

Mr. RANGEL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge the transatlantic voyage of the Freedom Schooner *Amistad* vessel, which is scheduled this month in commemoration of the bicentennial abolition of the Transatlantic Slave Trade in the United Kingdom and the United States and to enter into the RECORD an article from Carib News entitled "Amistad To Sail in Bid To Build Understanding and Unity."

I am pleased know that on June 21, 2007, the Freedom Schooner *Amistad* vessel, a replica of the original ship in which Africans that were kidnapped upstaged a revolt, will set sail from New Haven, Connecticut, on an 18 month transatlantic journey called the Atlantic Freedom Tour to commemorate the 200th anniversary of the abolishment of the Transatlantic Slave Trade in the United Kingdom and United States. College students from the United States, the United Kingdom, and other Atlantic Basin countries will partake in this historic voyage that will duplicate the notorious slave route while studying maritime issues, environmental issues, and the slave trade. These students will also serve as crew members.

This commemorative voyage offers an excellent opportunity for people all over the world to learn about the Transatlantic Slave Trade and its profound impact then and now on those who survived the high seas and the countries in the Western Hemisphere where they were enslaved. Awareness and acknowledgement of the immeasurable sacrifices and suffering endured should never be forgotten. Although the Transatlantic Slave Trade is a dark part of world history, its abolishment symbolizes the initial key steps towards growth and progress in race relations and human rights globally.

I introduced a resolution to commemorate the abolishment of the Transatlantic Slave Trade in the United Kingdom. Thus, I applaud and appreciate the *Amistad* America organization for sponsoring this project. I further applaud my colleague, Senator CHRIS DODD of Connecticut, for supporting this effort by serving as Honorary Chairman of the Atlantic Freedom Tour.

I urge my colleagues to consider participating in commemoration activities that will occur in the United States next year when our own great country celebrates the bicentennial of legislation abolishing the Transatlantic Slave Trade.

AMISTAD TO SAIL IN BID TO BUILD UNDERSTANDING AND UNITY

NEW HAVEN, CONN., June 5.—AMISTAD America Chairman William Minter recently announced the Freedom Schooner *Amistad* will be departing its home port of New Haven on June 21st for its 2007–2008 Atlantic Freedom Tour. This historic transatlantic voyage—an epic 18-month journey commemorating the 200th anniversary of the abolition of the slave trade in the United Kingdom and next year in the United States—will promote the values of understanding and unity represented by *Amistad* itself. The Freedom Schooner *Amistad*, the vessel for change, is a replica of the original ship that was commandeered by Africans who had been captured in 1839. Attending the Farewell Ceremonies being held in New Haven on June 21st will be dignitaries from the countries being visited by *Amistad* during its historic tour. Connecticut Senator Chris Dodd, Honorary Chairman of the Atlantic Freedom Tour will also welcome U.S. luminaries.

"We are pleased that the international community has embraced *Amistad's* Atlantic Freedom Tour," stated Chairman Minter. "This Tour represents an opportunity to share the values of *Amistad*—freedom, collaboration, and justice—with communities around the Atlantic Basin with a particular outreach to linking students of all ages." Ten college students from the UK and the U.S. will augment the initial crew of the *Amistad* when it sets sail on its voyage to retrace the infamous slave trade route. In addition to sailing duties, students will be responsible for class study on maritime and environmental studies, as well as the social and economic history of port cities and the legacy of the slave trade. A total of 50 students from countries around the Atlantic Basin will participate as *Amistad* student/crew during the voyage.

From its first stop in Halifax, Nova Scotia, the *Amistad* will travel to England, arriving in London in early August in commemoration of the 200th anniversary of the Abolition Act passed by England's Parliament. The *Amistad* will then join in the Liverpool National Museum's public opening of the International Slavery Museum on August 23rd, the UNESCO designated Slavery Remembrance Day. The ship travels on to Bristol before continuing its voyage to Portugal and the West Coast of Africa, marking major points in the history of the slave trade.

In December the *Amistad* will sail into the harbor of Freetown, Sierra Leone, the original West African homeland of many of the *Amistad* captives. This symbolic "homecoming" will be a capstone event of the Atlantic Freedom Tour. The *Amistad* will return to the United States via the Caribbean and Bermuda in Spring of 2008 and travel to multiple ports coming up the East Coast as the U.S. commemorates the bicentenary of legislation to ban the importation of slaves.

To find out more about the *Amistad* Atlantic Freedom Tour, visit <http://www.amistadamerica.org>.

RECOGNIZING THE DIGNIFIED CONTRIBUTION OF LIZZIE PALMER TO THE PUBLIC APPRECIATION OF OUR TROOPS

HON. DEBORAH PRYCE

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 15, 2007

Ms. PRYCE of Ohio. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize 15-year-old Lizzie Palmer, a constituent of mine from Columbus, Ohio, for her powerful and emotion-provoking video production, Remember Me.

For those who have not seen it, I respectfully recommend you do so. A 5-minute montage of photos of American soldiers and their families, Lizzie's video does not editorialize on the War in Iraq. It does not choose sides in the debate on the War on Terror. It is not a political statement. Rather, it conveys the very message that so many of us in this body recite day in and day out on this very floor: support the troops.

Yet it conveys her support for the troops in a thoughtful, dignified and mature manner that fully transcends the way in which the phrase is often used as a tagline by so many on both sides of the debate.

Unfortunately and unwittingly, however, Lizzie herself has become embroiled in America's debate on the war. The deep-seeded and sincere emotions that so many Americans feel about the War on Terror have now entered her realm, and have somehow cast her video as controversial, where no controversy should exist.

On YouTube, Lizzie's video has been watched more than 12 million times, and nearly 6,000 viewers have posted their comments and reactions to it. While most postings come from people deeply moved and appreciative of Lizzie's creation, the site also now serves as host to our nation's bitter divide on our presence in Iraq—a vitriolic and rancorous debate over America's foreign policy.

Inciting such a debate was never Lizzie's intention. According to Lizzie, she created this video to express her gratitude to the American men and women of our nation's all-volunteer force. She simply wanted to express her appreciation to our soldiers who day in and day out perform their duty professionally and proficiently, without qualification and without complaint.

Just as she does not pass judgment on why they are there, we should not seek to use Remember Me to further our own agenda. Those who do so have entirely failed to grasp the simple but fundamental message Lizzie is conveying to our soldiers: we support you without qualification. We should honor them all, and thank them for their thankless task at hand.

We all sit stateside, out of harm's way, opine on the efficacy of our mission in Iraq, and all claim to have the best interests of our troops at heart. But sometimes it takes the clearer vision of a 15-year-old—a vision unfettered, unencumbered, and unclouded by the politics of the world around us—to help remind us of what is truly important in this debate.

A TRIBUTE TO WILLIAM HOWARD

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 15, 2007

Mr. TOWNS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Brooklyn resident William Howard. Mr. Howard was born in Sumter, South Carolina. He is the second eldest of four boys.

Mr. Howard attended Lincoln High School in South Carolina. Following his graduation from high school, he answered a call to service; honorably serving in the United States Air Force for four-and-a-half years reaching the rank of Staff Sergeant. Mr. Howard later attended Knoxville College in Knoxville, Tennessee. After leaving college, he returned to New York accepting a civil service job with the New York City Transit Authority where he worked for 28 years, finally retiring as a Superintendent of Administration.

Mr. Howard is a member of the Mt. Zion Methodist Church in Sumter, and often attends St. Anthony Baptist Church in Brooklyn. He is active in the community serving as Chair of the fund raising committee of the Unity Democratic Club he is also active in the Club's Men's Council. Mr. Howard serves as a member of the NAACP, and is a 33rd Degree Mason in Tyree Grand Lodge. He is the Commander of the George P. Davis American Legion Post 116 in Brooklyn, New York. He is on the Board of Officers for the National New York Transit Retirees, and is the founder and president of the Flatbush Depot Alumni Society.

Madam Speaker, I would like to recognize Mr. William Howard's life of honor and service to the community.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in paying tribute to this great citizen as well as his contribution to New York City and our great Nation.

A MAN OF PRINCIPLE

HON. RON PAUL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 15, 2007

Mr. PAUL. Madam Speaker, I rise to enter into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD a letter to the editor of the Carteret County News-Times by General John Batiste titled, "A Man of Principle." General Batiste commanded the 1st Infantry Division in Iraq and in this letter he rightfully praises one of the most courageous Members of Congress, my friend Rep. WALTER JONES of North Carolina. Rep. JONES, correctly observes General Batiste, is a man of principle and well understands the dilemma we face in Iraq. It is very encouraging for me to read the words of the highly experienced General Batiste affirming the correctness of Congressman JONES' position on Iraq, because I share Rep. JONES views about this very difficult situation we find ourselves. I also salute Rep. JONES for his courage and his determination to seek the truth.

[From the Carteret County News-Times, May 25, 2007]

A MAN OF PRINCIPLE

ROCHESTER, N.Y.,

May 22, 2007

TO THE EDITOR: Congressman Walter Jones of North Carolina's 3rd District deserves our

unqualified support. He is a man of principle and well understands the dilemma we face in Iraq to include the fatally flawed strategy that took us to war in March 2003; the failure to modify the same strategy over time; the administration's continued reliance on the military without the necessary diplomatic, political, and economic components fundamental to a successful strategy; the administration's failure to mobilize the nation to deal with global Islamic extremism; and the dire straights our great soldiers and Marines find themselves in today.

Indeed, our Army and Marine Corps, the best fighting formations our country has ever fielded, are at a breaking point with little to show for it because of the reckless behavior of the current administration.

Walter Jones gets it. He personifies patriotism. He understands the American way of war.

I base this judgment on personal experience, a 31-year career in the Army, two combat tours in Iraq, many years of service in Balkans peace enforcement in both Bosnia and Kosovo and service in the Pentagon before, during and after Sept. 11th, 2001. I am a lifelong Republican. I respect Walter Jones for his moral courage and resolve to get things right.

I met Congressman Jones in his office in the Rayburn Office Building some eight months ago. I was impressed then with his grasp of the situation in Iraq and his unqualified love of country and support for our military. Indeed, for the last five years, he is one of only several congressional Republicans who have embraced their constitutional responsibilities to overwatch and hold accountable our executive branch of government. He asks the tough questions and never backs down. The vast majority of our party has long since abrogated this incredibly important aspect of their duty. He well represents his constituents and the best interests of both our country and our military. As President Gerald Ford once said, "Truth is the glue that holds our government together." Since our first meeting eight months ago, my respect of Walter Jones has multiplied tenfold.

People often ask me to describe how they can help get the country back on track. The answer almost invariably boils down to exercising the right to vote and casting one's vote for the candidate who understands the issues and has the moral courage to do the right thing. I have now expanded that answer to elect more public servants like Congressman Walter Jones of North Carolina. Our nation desperately needs members of Congress with his character, commitment, and resolve. I salute Walter Jones as a man of principle with the courage of his convictions.

JOHN BATISTE,
Maj. Gen. USA (Ret.)

MARKET INCENTIVES FOR
BIOBASED PRODUCTS ACT OF 2007**HON. NICK LAMPSON**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 15, 2007

Mr. LAMPSON. Madam Speaker, I am proud to introduce a bill today related to Federal procurement of biobased products and the labeling of such products, known as the Market Incentives for Biobased Products Act of 2007. The Federal Government serves a vital role in promoting new technologies and products by creating a market as the country's largest consumer.

This bill, which will amend section 9002 of the Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002, will require the Secretary of Agriculture to set biobased product procurement guidelines for Federal agencies. A stronger biobased procurement program will help strengthen rural communities and uplift our Nation's farmers by creating new jobs and new markets. Additionally, by replacing petroleum-based products with bio-based products, this program will decrease our Nation's dependence on foreign oil and protect the environment.

Just as the mandate to purchase recycled paper spurred the growth of that industry, we can do the same with biobased products. Although it took 12 years for the EPA to establish guidelines for recycled paper, all 50 States followed suit and it has become a mainstream product whose quality has improved vastly over the years. While the USDA has made great strides in establishing the BioPreferred Program, I hope this bill will stimulate expansion of biobased product use in a timely manner.

This bill also requires the Secretary to establish labeling requirements for finished products and intermediate ingredients in consultation with Federal agencies, producers of biobased products, and various interested organizations within 90 days of enactment. Setting uniform labeling standards will aid in purchasing decisions, dissemination of products, and eventually build consumer confidence in bio-based products.

Finally, this bill sets reporting requirements so Congress can ensure the progress of the procurement and labeling program. I believe that proper oversight is essential to guarantee forward movement of this program and conscientious use of taxpayer dollars.

By setting high goals and standards, this body can pave the way for the expansion of a burgeoning industry, and have positive affects our farmers, our environment, and our national security.

A TRIBUTE TO MR. EARNEST
FLOWERS**HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 15, 2007

Mr. TOWNS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Mr. Earnest Flowers, a career Financial Advisor who has worked for security houses and alongside investment banks since 1994.

Mr. Flowers joined Whales Securities after two years of training. There he became a vice-president of private client services and a top producer. While at Whale, he participated in finding various Initial Public Offerings (IPO's) including the World Heart Corporation, and Take-Two Interactive Software Incorporated.

Mr. Flowers was recruited in 2000 by his former manager to join Ladenburg, Thalmann & Company, Incorporated, the second oldest firm on Wall Street. In 2002, Mr. Flowers went independent and has since provided wealth management through firms such as the Concord Equity Group, the Investors Capital Corporation and most recently, Aura Financial Services.

Mr. Flower's independence has allowed him to raise capital and work on alternative

projects. Current projects range from economic and social development in Africa to the financing of media companies. Among them: Vardo Entertainment; Mindtree; Urbintel; and VuVango Media. Mr. Flowers has financed the public works of Clarence B. Jones, worked as a former draft speech writer and counsel to Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., and assisted with future film projects like Pilgrims Progress, Clara Ward, the Shea Foundation, and a gospel reality pilot for Black Entertainment Television.

Mr. Flowers is a member of various boards in the religious, political and business communities. Among them are: the Insight Broadcasting Corporation; the Atlantic Union of SDA Executive Committee; the Atlantic Union Adventist Media/3 ABN; Northeastern Academy Alumni; Northeastern Conference Youth Advisory Committee; Elmer H. Blackburn Regular Democratic Club; Harlem Advent Care Center; Daly Day Academy; and the Northeastern Conference Junior Basketball League.

Mr. Flowers holds a Bachelor's of Science Degree from Oakwood College and is currently in the last semester of the St. Johns' University MBA Program. Mr. Flowers is an ordained Elder at City Tabernacle SDA Church and a former Associate Coordinator and current Master Guide in the Bronx/Manhattan Pathfinder Association. He is married to Dr. Alicia Massop-Flowers.

Madam Speaker, I would like to recognize the distinguished accomplishments and achievements of Mr. Flowers.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in paying tribute to this extraordinary gentleman.

BIPARTISAN CONGRESSIONAL DELEGATION TO NATO PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY MEETINGS

HON. JOHN S. TANNER

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 15, 2007

Mr. TANNER. Madam Speaker, I recently led a bipartisan House delegation to NATO Parliamentary Assembly meetings in Madeira and Lisbon, Portugal, and to additional meetings in Tunisia and Morocco from May 24–June 3. The co-chair of my delegation was the Hon. PAUL GILLMOR. In addition, Representatives RALPH REGULA, JO ANN EMERSON, JOHN SHIMKUS, ELLEN TAUSCHER, DENNIS MOORE, TOM TANCREDO, JOHN BOOZMAN, BARON HILL, BEN CHANDLER, KENDRICK MEEK, and CHARLES MELANCON, and staff, worked to make this a highly successful trip in which we examined a range of NATO and Mediterranean security issues.

The NATO Parliamentary Assembly, NPA, consists of parliamentarians from all 26 NATO member states. In addition, members of parliament present from such associated governments as Russia, Georgia, Croatia, and Afghanistan join discussions and debates over the key issues of interest to the alliance. The NPA thereby provides a forum for elected officials to analyze issues that NATO discusses in Brussels. Delegates have the opportunity to learn first-hand the views and concerns that other countries have over the key security issues of the day. An invaluable aspect of the meetings is the chance to meet and come to

know members of parliaments who play important roles in their own countries in shaping the security agenda that their governments debate at NATO headquarters. These contacts can endure through a career, and can provide an invaluable private avenue for insights into each ally's particular views on an issue.

The key issues before NATO today are Russia, missile defense, and the conflict in Afghanistan. Each of these was on vigorous display at the NPA meetings. Russia under Putin is following an increasingly assertive policy in its use of energy supplies as a political lever, and in efforts to intimidate neighboring states such as Estonia and Georgia. It was clear from our meetings that not only the United States and NATO, but the European Union as well, are concerned about Moscow's posture on a wide range of issues. The Bush Administration's missile defense proposal for Europe was also a central subject of discussion. While many governments accept in the abstract the need to consider such a defensive system in an era of missile and nuclear proliferation, the meetings revealed a wide array of views among the allies on the efficacy and timeliness of this particular system. The United States has approximately 25,000 troops in Afghanistan, of whom 17,000 are engaged in NATO's International Security Assistance Force, ISAF, fighting the Taliban.

Portugal hosted the NP A meetings in Madeira. Before the opening sessions, the delegation had a detailed briefing and discussion with Ambassador Victoria Nuland, the U.S. representative to NATO. She very ably prepared us for the nuances of the discussion of the issues that would be debated in the NPA sessions. There followed another private meeting with NATO Secretary General Jaap de Hoop Scheffer, who gave an overview of member state perspectives on the most controversial issues confronting the alliance; he later addressed the NPA's plenary session. The Prime Minister of Portugal also addressed the plenary, and emphasized the importance of Mediterranean security issues, which were a recurrent theme in our trip.

There followed 2 days of NPA committee meetings. There are 5 NPA committees. In each, parliamentarians present reports on issues before the alliance, which are then debated by all members of the committee who may make counter-arguments or suggestions for amending a report. We divided our delegation so that U.S. Members were present in each committee meeting.

I chaired the Economics and Security Committee, which heard reports on the Republic of Georgia's progress towards democracy and its increasingly close association with NATO, on defense resource management, and on economic developments in East Asia. Representative BOOZMAN was the co-rapporteur of this last report, which he very ably presented, and which aroused an interesting discussion. Rep. BOOZMAN noted the growing commercial interests of the United States and its allies in East Asia, and the political and security implications of this growing web of economic connections. The Committee also heard a provocative and interesting presentation by Lawrence Korb of the Center for American Progress. He discussed the U.S. defense budget debate, and the effects that the Iraq war is having on U.S. military capabilities around the world.

The NPA Political Committee, of which Rep. CHANDLER is a vice-chairman, heard several

reports that touched off sometimes contentious debates. Most notable were exchanges between the Russian delegates and their counterparts from NATO parliaments over the cyber attacks on Estonia's government and business electronic systems, in all probability launched in retaliation for Estonia's relocation of a Soviet-era war memorial. There was also a report by a Canadian delegate on the conflict in Afghanistan. Backed by her U.S. colleagues, she called for a reduction in caveats—restrictions that some allies place on their forces in Afghanistan—and a greater sharing of the combat burden among member states.

The Defense and Security Committee also heard a report on Afghanistan that concentrated on military operations there. Representative SHIMKUS then gave a clear, succinct, and analytical presentation on his report on the NATO–EU security relationship. He called for better coordination between the 2 organizations so that member governments might pool and share resources more smoothly as NATO and the EU work more closely together in such missions as Afghanistan and Kosovo. His report was well-received, and led to an interesting debate. Representative TAUSCHER is a vice-chair of one of the Committee's subcommittees.

The Science and Technology Committee heard reports on climate change and on the transformation of warfare brought on by the increasing use of computers and other high technology. A report by a Russian delegate set off a broad debate on the administration's missile defense proposals. The concerns of Moscow were clearly, if ideologically, laid out by the Russian delegate, with responses from a range of European delegates. Representative TAUSCHER provided a clear and concise congressional perspective on missile defense after a presentation on the issue by a U.S. Department of Defense official.

The Committee on the Civil Dimension of Security heard reports on a range of issues, the most interesting of which was the protection of critical infrastructures. The issue of the recent cyber attacks in Estonia was again raised; vulnerability of communications and other electronic networks in allied states is likely to become a matter of growing debate in the alliance. Representative EMERSON is a vice-chair of one of the Committee's subcommittees.

The rapporteurs will present updated drafts of their reports during the next NPA meetings, which will occur in Reykjavik, Iceland, October 5–9, 2007.

The delegation also met with a member of the Afghan parliament who is an observer delegate to the NPA. We discussed NATO operations, the narcotics trade in Afghanistan, and governance issues with him.

The delegation next went to Lisbon on May 28–29 for meetings there and visits to 2 military bases. After a briefing by U.S. Ambassador Alfred Hoffman and his staff, the delegation visited the NATO Joint Command just outside Lisbon. Joint HQ Lisbon is an allied mobile command that becomes a sea-based command in the initial stages of operations ranging from peacekeeping to war fighting. It is a reflection of NATO's ongoing transformation into a lighter, more mobile military structure able to counter crises around the world. Joint HQ Lisbon currently provides the headquarters structure for the NATO mission in Darfur.

The delegation then visited the NATO Joint Command for Combined Air Operations Center, CAOC, which has highly sophisticated electronic systems that monitor all air traffic off southwestern Europe, northwestern Africa, and in the western Mediterranean. The CAOC can scramble aircraft to counter any potential aerial threat to the region.

The delegation again picked up the themes of Mediterranean security in Tunis on May 30–31. Tunisia is part of NATO's Mediterranean Dialogue, in which NATO governments join a number of Arab governments along the Mediterranean coast and Israel to discuss and begin to train for counter-terror and counter-proliferation efforts. Bilaterally, Tunisia is also an important friend of the United States in countering terrorist threats in North Africa. At the same time, some Members raised concerns about the need for the Tunisian Government to make greater progress on the road to democracy.

In 1942–1944, 2,841 American soldiers gave their lives in the effort to defeat German and Italian forces in the North African theater during the Second World War. The delegation visited their resting place in the North African Cemetery, managed by the U.S. American Battle Monuments Commission. While we tend to think of U.S. cemeteries in the Second World War theater as being located in Europe, the cemetery outside Tunis is a monument to the brave soldiers who gave their lives in the strategically critical and often extremely difficult battles that weakened Germany's lines of defense and supply in preparation for the conclusive battles of 1944–1945 in Europe. Accompanied by other members of the delegation, I laid a wreath at the cemetery's central monument. Members of the delegation then walked to individual graves of fallen soldiers from their states. This was perhaps the most memorable and poignant moment of the delegation's trip.

After a briefing by U.S. Ambassador Robert Godec, the Members had a lengthy and highly informative meeting with the Tunisian President, Zine El Abidine Ben Ali, where we discussed the key issues in U.S.-Tunisian relations, as well as matters of Mediterranean security. There followed meetings with the Foreign and Defense Ministers, where issues of U.S.-Tunisian cooperation and U.S. military assistance were discussed in detail. These meetings provided a precise, focused discussion of how the United States and Tunisia might work more closely together on security issues. The delegation also visited the Tunisian parliament.

On June 1–2, the delegation went to Rabat for meetings with Moroccan officials on security issues. Morocco has experienced an increase in Al Qaeda activity; the Madrid train bombings of March 2004 were largely carried out by Moroccan Islamist extremists. Morocco, which is on a path of moderate democratization, is one of the United States' oldest allies, and was the first government to recognize U.S. independence.

After a briefing by U.S. Ambassador Thomas Riley and his staff, the delegation held meetings with the Moroccan Defense Minister and with upper-level officials in the Foreign Ministry. The focal points of these discussions were Morocco's participation in NATO's Mediterranean Dialogue, and U.S.-Moroccan bilateral efforts to counter proliferation and terrorism. We also visited the Moroccan par-

liament for a meeting with the chamber of deputies' leader, comparable to our Speaker of the House.

The U.S. Air Force Reserve elements from Scott Air Force Base piloted our aircraft and security for it was provided by members of the United States Air Force Reserve from Andrews Air Force Base. Our military personnel provide a quiet but invaluable service in ensuring safety and an efficient schedule for U.S. congressional delegations, and this group of service men and women was no exception. I thank them for their hard work and their dedication to duty.

CONGRATULATING UCLA ON ITS UNPRECEDENTED 100TH NCAA TITLE

HON. JERRY LEWIS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 15, 2007

Mr. LEWIS of California. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the accomplishments of the UCLA Athletic Program which recently won its 100th championship, making it the first Division I school to do so.

The UCLA men's tennis team won the first NCAA championship for the Bruins in 1950 and the last 57 years have been witness to an unprecedented record of success. These championships have not been confined to just a few sports. Some of the multiple championships include 19 men's volleyball, 16 men's tennis, 11 men's basketball, 10 women's softball, 8 championships for both men's track and field and men's water polo, and 5 championships for women's gymnastics, women's track and field, and women's water polo. The list of Bruin athletes who contributed to the school's history of victory is a roll call of the greatest athletes of our time: Lewis Alcindor, Arthur Ashe, Evelyn Ashford, Jimmy Connors, Gale Devers, Mitch Gaylord, Florence Griffith-Joyner, Jackie Joyner-Kersey, Karch Kiraly, Jackie Robinson, Bill Walton, and others.

This record is not just the result of exceptional athletes. These championships also reflect the philosophies of great Bruin coaches like basketball icon John Wooden and volleyball legend Al Scates. Their commitment to hard work, discipline, and sportsmanship has created a legacy of victory unparalleled in college sports. Additionally, the contributions of all the students, alumni, and staff have been instrumental over the years in helping UCLA achieve 100 championships.

The 100th championship came from the Women's Water Polo team which won its third consecutive NCAA Division I championship on May 13, 2007. The Bruins, coached by Adam Krikorian, finished 28–2 and have been 90–6 over the past three seasons. Courtney Mathewson scored three goals and Jillian Kraus added two more as the Bruins beat rival Stanford. Kelly Rulon was selected as the tournament's Most Valuable Player. Rulon, Mathewson, and Kraus were joined by Emily Feher and Kacy Kunkel as members to the NCAA All-Tournament First Team.

On behalf of the UCLA graduates in the House, I congratulate the Women's Water Polo team for its most recent championship and I commend the Bruins for being the most accomplished athletic program in NCAA history.

A TRIBUTE TO KEITH DOSREIS, JR.

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 15, 2007

Mr. TOWNS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Mr. Keith "Suede" DosReis, Jr. Keith grew up in Brownsville, Brooklyn, and has always had the ability to hold an audience captive. He began a career in entertainment at the age of 5. He attended State University of New York at Albany where he pledged Kappa Alpha Psi fraternity.

Keith DosReis, Jr., has appeared in 16 commercials, two of them with legendary actor and comedian William "Bill" Cosby. Though making the commercials was fun, Keith's passion lies in hosting live events. Among his most popular was the national collegiate step show tournament, "StepCorrect."

Keith DosReis has become a sought after personality to host events throughout the New York Tri-State area as well as colleges nationwide. His hosting of national events has led to his latest endeavor of managing artists which is a natural outgrowth of his entrepreneurial and managerial experience that were derived from his days with HBO Sports.

Keith DosReis is now the Program Coordinator for the Forster Laurie Police Athletic League Center in Queens, NY. This gives Keith an opportunity to provide new programs for our youth while at the same time bestowing upon them his knowledge of the entertainment industry.

Madam Speaker, I would like to recognize Keith DosReis for his accomplishments and achievements.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in paying tribute to this artful entertainer.

INTRODUCTION OF THE UNIVERSITY OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA GRADUATE PROGRAMS ACT

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 15, 2007

Ms. NORTON. Madam Speaker, today I introduce the University of the District of Columbia Graduate Programs Act that amends Section 326 of the Higher Education Act to provide federal Historically Black College and University (HBCU) grant funding to the qualified graduate programs at the University of the District of Columbia.

The University of the District of Columbia (UDC) is the District's only public university and institution of higher learning. An open admission institution at the undergraduate level, the University has consistently and historically provided higher education opportunities to D.C. residents at low and affordable costs. The University justifiably prides itself on its vital role in educating the leaders of the next generation by producing theoretically sound and practically skilled graduates, ready to undertake careers in service in both the public and private sectors.

UDC also is one of the Nation's oldest HBCUs, but the university did not receive federal funding as an HBCU until 1999. When

Congress passed the District of Columbia College Access Act, I was able to convince Congress that the necessary complement to the College Access Act was long overdue HBCU funding because of the indispensable function of UDC for thousands of students for whom UDC was not only a choice, but the only practical option.

Funding from the Historically Black Graduate Institutions (HBGIs) program will allow UDC to increase its production of skilled graduates in vital disciplines and jobs in which African Americans, Hispanics and others are underrepresented and to strengthen its graduate programs in occupations where there are shortages and jobs in our region. For example, the University has graduate degree programs in cancer biology prevention and control, early childhood education, mathematics, special education, and speech and language pathology, and other graduate programs in the College of Arts and Sciences, the David A. Clarke School of Law, and the School of Business and Public Administration. A graduate curriculum is being developed in the School of Engineering and Applied Sciences.

I urge all of my colleagues to support this bill.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. XAVIER BECERRA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 15, 2007

Mr. BECERRA. Madam Speaker, on Monday, June 5, 2007, Tuesday, June 6, 2007 and Tuesday, June 12, 2007, I was unable to cast my floor vote on rollcall Nos. 426, 427, 428, 429, 430, 431, 432, 433, 434, 435, 436, 437, 438, 439 and 459.

Had I been present for the votes, I would have voted "aye" on the following rollcall votes 426, 427, 428, 429, 430, 431, 432, 433, 434, 435, 436, 437, 438 and 439 and "no" on 459.

A TRIBUTE TO LARRY CARLTON

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 15, 2007

Mr. TOWNS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a great guitarist and an exceptional musician Mr. Larry Carlton. Larry Carlton's own musical story began in southern California. He picked up his first guitar at the age of six. He was introduced to jazz in junior high school. Saxophonist John Coltrane was a major influence on Carlton, beginning with Coltrane's 1962 classic "Ballads."

Larry Carlton recorded his first album in 1968, "With a Little Help From my Friends." The enthusiastic industry response garnered him a place among jingle singers. He also recorded on camera and recorded radio commercials for Ford. Mid-season in his second year, he segued to musical director for "Mrs. Alphabet," an Emmy-nominated children's show. It was here Carlton showcased his acting skills, performing as the show's co-star, "Larry Guitar."

Larry Carlton performed with the world renowned Crusaders on 12 of their albums,

often contributing material. He released his second solo project in 1973 on Blue Thumb Records. Larry Carlton's demand as a session player was now at its zenith, he was constantly featured with stars from every imaginable genre. Among them: Sammy Davis, Jr.; Herb Alpert; Quincy Jones; Paul Anka; Michael Jackson; John Lennon; Jerry Garcia; and Dolly Parton.

Larry Carlton was approached by the newly formed MCA Master Series label in 1985 for consideration of recording an acoustic jazz album. His first release for the new label was "Alone." The 12 months of 1987 brought some of the biggest highlights in his solo career. However, while working on his next album for MCA, Carlton was a victim of random gun violence and was shot in the throat by gun-wielding juveniles outside his private studio near Burbank, California. The bullet shattered his vocal cords and caused significant nerve trauma, but through intensive therapy and a positive frame of mind, he completed his work on his "On Solid Ground" album in 1989.

Madam Speaker, through all of this adversity, Larry Carlton continues to grace us with his gift of music. I would like to recognize him for his accomplishments and achievements which are far too numerous to mention today.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in paying tribute to this wonderfully gifted musician.

TRIBUTE TO ROBERT MARCUS

HON. JANICE D. SCHAKOWSKY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 15, 2007

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Madam Speaker, June 22 will be a bittersweet day for me and for all of Team Schakowsky. That is the day that Robert Marcus, Legislative Assistant, will be leaving our office. After a summer in Israel, Robert will attend graduate school at the Fletcher School of International Affairs at Tufts University, where we know he will make an outstanding contribution.

In his more than 4 years on my staff, Robert has been an invaluable member of the team, serving as the point person for foreign affairs, in particular U.S.-Israel relations, the war in Iraq, Haiti, Darfur, and Colombia. He has been in charge of veterans affairs and has played a major role in shining a bright light on and drafting legislation addressing the growing role of private military contractors.

Robert's influence has extended far beyond Capitol Hill and well beyond the borders of the United States. In 2005, Robert worked with an Illinois synagogue and its Rabbi, Bruce Elder, to bring a Torah to its former home in the small Czech Republic town of Lostice. It was one of 1,500 Torahs that had been confiscated by the Nazis during World War II. Robert made the arrangements for the visit and joined members of the Congregation Hakafa when the Torah was opened and read at the synagogue, which is now a community center. Though no Jews remain in Lostice, the people had protected the building and came out to welcome the visitors with songs sung in Hebrew. Dignitaries from across the Czech Republic participated and it became a highly publicized story with a powerful message of

remembrance and tolerance that will long be remembered. Robert Marcus made it happen.

Robert Marcus has been addressing the problem of deforestation in Haiti in a very practical way. Haiti is almost completely deforested, with only one or two percent of its original forest cover remaining. Working with Haitian-American leaders as well as an organization led by Wyclef Jean called Yele Haiti, Robert brought another important organization to the table to help with a new Haitian environmental initiative that combines tree planting with alternative energy. The Jewish National Fund, at Robert's initiative, is now providing technical expertise from their extensive and successful experience with tree planting in Israel.

Robert will be missed not only for the exceptional work he has done, but for his incredible kindness, (sometimes quirky) sense of humor, his contagious friendliness, and, of course, his rugged good looks.

If you "Google" Robert Marcus, you will find over 14 million separate entries. True, not all of them are about OUR Robert Marcus, the real Robert Marcus, (particularly the one that reads "Robert Marcus: Real Threat or Just Another Stupid Clam?"), but we know he will make a huge mark in the world. We just hope he will always remember his days with Team Schakowsky. I know I will never forget him. I say, "Thank you, Robert Marcus. I love you very much."

TRIBUTE TO MRS. SALLY MORIN

HON. STENY H. HOYER

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 15, 2007

Mr. HOYER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to my constituent, Mrs. Sally Morin, who will be retiring after 20 years of dedicated service to the Anne Arundel County Public Schools System.

Sally Morin started her career with the school system on July 7, 1987, at Germantown Elementary in Annapolis, MD. She will complete her time with the system at Lothian Elementary School. Throughout her career, every principal for whom she has worked has noted her dedication, skills, and loyalty. They have also witnessed her magnificent ability to relate to all members of the school community—administrators, teachers, staff, parents, and, importantly, students.

While balancing a career with raising a family, Sally also went the extra mile and has been a very active member of her community. With her husband Maury and daughters, Lauri and Jeri, Sally opened her home to numerous Naval Academy midshipmen—offering a welcome respite from the rigorous coursework and intense training that these able young men and women experience at the academy. The Morin family also have been active members of their church and have been vigorous supporters of the construction of a new church building.

In retirement, Sally and Maury have decided to move to Delaware. While this naturally saddens their friends and neighbors in Anne Arundel County, I know that I join with them in wishing the Morins a very long and rewarding retirement.

A TRIBUTE TO KEVIN C. BRYANT

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 15, 2007

Mr. TOWNS. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Kevin C. Bryant, detective first grade of the New York City Police Department. Mr. Bryant was born and raised in Brooklyn and attended public school through 12th grade. In 1985, at Queens College, Mr. Bryant was sworn in as a probationary police officer for the NYPD.

Mr. Bryant successfully graduated from the police academy and was eventually assigned to his permanent command in the 81st precinct of Brooklyn's North neighborhood. Because of his honorable work on the police force, Mr. Bryant was offered invitations to join the Narcotics Division several times, an invitation he finally accepted in 1987.

Mr. Bryant was assigned to a special anti-crack unit in Queens where he was an instrumental component in hundreds of undercover buy-and-bust operations throughout the city. He made such a significant impact that he was promoted to detective third grade in 1989.

Mr. Bryant was selected to initiate a federally funded program aimed at disrupting drug gangs called the High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area Task Force in 1991, after continuing to make positive contributions in his community. His HIDTA program was so effective that it became the rubric for developing HIDTA programs across the country.

Mr. Bryant continued to prove his dedication to crime-fighting during his work with the HIDTA, which resulted in his promotion to detective second grade.

Mr. Bryant accepted an invitation to join the Intelligence Division in 1998. There he performed tasks ranging from investigating organized street gangs, to post-9/11 terrorism investigations. He was promoted to detective first grade in 2007.

Mr. Bryant retired from the NYPD on his 44th birthday in April of 2007. He now spends more time with his family, his wife of 16 years Choddie Bryant and his three children, Porsha, Kai and Khail.

Madam Speaker, I would like to recognize the accomplishments of Kevin C. Bryant, as his selfless and unwavering dedication to the betterment of New York City has forever benefited the lives of its residents.

Madam Speaker, Kevin C. Bryant's service has continuously demonstrated a level of altruistic dedication that makes him most worthy of our recognition today.

WPET-AM CELEBRATES A HALF CENTURY OF SERVICE**HON. HOWARD COBLE**

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 15, 2007

Mr. COBLE. Madam Speaker, for more than 50 years, a radio station in the Sixth District of North Carolina has been providing our citizens with the best in local programming. Since WPET-AM 950 went on the air in June of 1954, listeners in the Piedmont Triad region of North Carolina have had their souls nourished,

their hearts enriched, and they have been entertained, enlightened, and educated by the programming provided by WPET.

The station has had a rich and colorful history. The first owner was Mr. Wayne Nelson. Between 1957 and 1959, WPET was owned by Mr. Bill Mitchell and Mr. Bob Montgomery. In 1959, Beattie Broadcasting Group owned and operated the radio station. From 1967 until 1984, Mido Communications owned WPET. Mr. Tom Armshaw was the co-owner, vice president, and general manager of WPET. It was Tom Armshaw who changed the station programming to an all-Southern Gospel format, which has endured for the last 40 years. In 1984, WPET-AM and its sister station WRQK-FM were purchased by A.H. Robins Company. From 1987 until 2002, WPET was owned by Bahakel Communications and from 2002 until the present, WPET has been owned by Entercom Communications.

Consistent quality has been a hallmark of WPET throughout its history. This year, the current program director, Mr. Dave Compton, entered his 30th year of service to the listeners of WPET. The on-air team at WPET feels like family to its many loyal and faithful listeners. In addition to Dave Compton, WPET's many fans enjoy listening to Jan Harkey (also known as Miss Dusty), Andy Johnson, Jimmy Fulmer, Larry Dunlap with morning sports, and Paul Heil, the host of Gospel Greats.

In addition to broadcasting the Gospel in both word and song, WPET presents local news and weather, provides community information and airs sports programming such as Greensboro Grasshoppers baseball, the men's and women's basketball teams at the University of North Carolina at Greensboro Spartans, and the East Carolina University Pirates football team. An example of how WPET serves its listeners in many different ways will occur on June 23 when the radio station sponsors a free Health and Community Service Day in Greensboro. The event will provide free blood pressure, cholesterol and glucose screenings, along with food, games and entertainment for all who attend.

In the spirit of full disclosure, I must admit to some personal bias in our office when it comes to our affection for WPET. My Chief of Staff Ed McDonald is an alumnus of the radio station, having served as a news reporter for WPET from 1981 until 1984 when I hired him away from the station. In addition, many folks call me an "AM radio guy in an FM world," and I plead guilty to that charge. So personally and professionally, we can say that we are big fans of WPET.

Allow me to quote Dave Compton, the station's program director, who accurately captured the essence of what makes WPET special. "With a Southern Gospel format," Dave Compton stated, "WPET airs the Good News of our Lord, embracing Christian values with local churches and the church community of the Piedmont, and being that comforting voice with the Good News of the Gospel, offering hope and solace in a sometimes troubled world."

I could not have said it any better, Madam Speaker. I will simply add that, on behalf of the citizens of the Sixth District of North Carolina, we thank, the owners and staff of WPET-AM 950 for providing the Piedmont with quality Southern Gospel radio.

AMERICAN COLLEGE AND UNIVERSITY PRESIDENTS CLIMATE COMMITMENT**HON. HARRY E. MITCHELL**

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 15, 2007

Mr. MITCHELL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to highlight some encouraging and important activity at America's colleges and universities. This morning I attended a kick-off event celebrating the decision by 284 universities and colleges from across the Nation to sign the American College and University Presidents Climate Commitment.

Let me say that I am pleased to see that this group is led by President Michael Crow of Arizona State University, which is in my hometown of Tempe. ASU and the other 283 colleges and universities have made a commitment to move their respective campuses toward meeting a long-term goal of climate neutrality.

I applaud their commitment to lead the country by example. Sustainable energy is an issue that affects our environment, our economy and our national security, and we cannot leave this problem for future generations of Americans to solve.

These universities and colleges are taking proactive steps to solve the problem of global warming. They are implementing solutions on campus, educating students and future generations, and generating the research for how we can solve the growing climate change crisis.

By making this climate commitment, these colleges and universities have made a bold declaration that America's higher education institutions are ready and able to take on the challenge of global warming and are committed to concrete action.

I am particularly proud of the steps ASU has taken to address climate change. ASU has already established the Global Institute of Sustainability and the School of Sustainability. This is a significant accomplishment of which the entire State of Arizona is proud.

I congratulate these universities for their leadership and vision and wish them success in this endeavor.

TRIBUTE TO JOSIAH HOLLOPETER**HON. ADRIAN SMITH**

OF NEBRASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 15, 2007

Mr. SMITH of Nebraska. Madam Speaker, on a day when the House of Representatives has passed legislation providing for the health and well-being of our veterans, it is with a heavy heart I honor a brave man who will not be returning home. Specialist Josiah Hollopeter, of Valentine, NE, was shot and killed by small arms fire while on dismounted patrol in Normandy, Iraq, on June 14.

My thoughts and prayers are with Josiah's family—his parents and his wife—today. Josiah represented the best of what it means to be a Nebraskan. His service and sacrifice for our country will long be remembered.

Again, I ask my colleagues to remember the Hollopeter family during this time of grieving.

And to remember Josiah's comrades in arms who are still in harm's way.

A TRIBUTE TO HARLON BRANDON

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 15, 2007

Mr. TOWNS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. Harlon Brandon. Harlon is an award winning footwear designer with a penchant for giving back to his community. He is a native New Yorker, who attended New York's School of Visual Arts earning a Fine Arts degree. Upon graduation in the early 80s, he decided to pursue a career in advertising.

Harlon Brandon began his career as an Art Director with Foote, Cone & Belding, focusing on fashion and beauty accounts. He continued his advertising career at Lockhart & Pettus, as an Executive Director and Art Director. While at Lockhart & Pettus he received the CEBA award for "Advertising and Communications to the African-American Community."

Harlon Brandon later took a shoe design course. He was encouraged by his professor to enter a footwear design competition where he took home the top prize for Women's Shoe Design. Following that, he spent years designing shoes throughout the world for well-known designers Tommy Hilfiger, Christian Dior and Puma. After many years of designing for others he stepped out on his own and launched his footwear line, Harlon Brandon Footwear.

Harlon Brandon received the "Innovator Award" by the Black Retailers Action Group in 2004. He was featured on CBS News in a segment about small business success stories and more recently, he was nominated for the Black Enterprise "Emerging Company of the Year Award".

Harlon Brandon is not only recognized for his achievements in design, but for his enumerable contributions to the youth in his community. He was featured on WPIX-TV for his tireless community work and his unwavering commitment to mentoring urban high school students.

Madam Speaker, I would like to recognize Mr. Harlon Brandon is a shining example of where hard work and perseverance can lead.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in paying tribute to a man who encourages our youth in putting their best foot forward.

DEPORTATION CASE OF MR. SAMEH KHOUZAM

HON. JOSEPH R. PITTS

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 15, 2007

Mr. PITTS. Madam Speaker, I am deeply concerned about the upcoming possible deportation of Mr. Sameh Khouzam, an Egyptian man who is currently detained in York, Pennsylvania. The Second Circuit Court granted a stay of deportation to Egypt based on a finding that it was "more likely than not" that he would be tortured upon return. Reportedly, the U.S. Government received assurances from the Egyptian Government that Mr. Khouzam

would not be tortured were he to be returned to Egypt. I am deeply disturbed that the U.S. Government appears to have taken this assurance at face value in light of the extensive evidence of torture against Egyptian citizens, particularly against religious minorities.

Mr. Khouzam fled Egypt in 1998, due to pressure from the Egyptian government to forcibly change his religion. Reports suggest that he, and other family members, were detained and imprisoned by the government during these reported attempts at forcible conversion. Mr. Khouzam then fled the country fearing for his life. During the flight to the United States, Egyptian officials notified U.S. officials that Mr. Khouzam was wanted for murder. When he landed in the U.S., authorities noticed that he was injured (due to Egyptian security officials' actions) and placed him in the hospital. After his release from the hospital, he was imprisoned in the U.S. due to Egyptian government requests, despite the absence of credible evidence and the lack of autopsy reports substantiating the "murder" charges. Mr. Khouzam was imprisoned in the U.S. for 8 years, until he was granted parole based on a Second Circuit Court decision that were he to be deported he would most certainly face torture at the hands of the Egyptian Government.

By all accounts, Mr. Khouzam is an upstanding, contributing member of the communities in which he works, lives, and worships in Pennsylvania. It came as a great surprise to everyone when Mr. Khouzam, following instructions, voluntarily reported to immigration authorities to check in with them on Tuesday, May 29, 2007, but was then detained, imprisoned, and informed that the Egyptian Government provided "assurances" that he would not be tortured, therefore, he would be deported on Friday, June 1, 2007. Mr. Khouzam's lawyers requested an extension of the stay of deportation; the request was granted for an extension until Thursday, June 7, 2007 and extended again until Monday, June 18, 2007.

It is deeply disturbing that the U.S. Department of State and Department of Homeland Security would, in the face of all evidence to the contrary, accept at face value a promise from the Egyptian Government. Over the years, a number of Members of Congress have personally worked on numerous cases in Egypt in which the government has used torture against its own citizens. The most recent Country Reports on Human Rights Practices issued by the U.S. Department of State detail that there were "numerous, credible reports that security forces tortured and mistreated prisoners and detainees," that security forces "employ torture to extract information or force confessions," and that "human rights monitors believe the use of torture by police [is] widespread." Further, the Country Reports describe the torture methods used by Egyptian security officials, "Principal methods of torture reportedly employed by the police and the SSIs included stripping and blindfolding victims; suspending victims from a ceiling or doorframe with feet just touching the floor; beating victims with fists, whips, metal rods, or other objects; using electrical shocks; and dousing victims with cold water. Victims frequently reported being subjected to threats and forced to sign blank papers for use against themselves or their families should they in the future lodge complaints about the torture. Some victims, including male and female detainees and children, reported sexual

assaults or threats of rape against themselves or family members." Even further, the Report states that "Security forces continued to mistreat and torture prisoners, arbitrarily arrest and detain persons, hold detainees in prolonged pretrial detention, and engage in mass arrests."

Further, the State Department, as have numerous human rights organizations, has documented persecution by the government of Egypt against Coptic Christians. All this evidence and the clear patterns of the use of torture as well as persecution against religious minorities indicate that the "assurances" of the Egyptian Government on these matters are not reliable.

Madam Speaker, in two recent news programs on an Australian television station, former Central Intelligence official Bob Baer made it clear that the U.S. Government knows of the widespread torture in Egypt, and, in fact, considers that knowledge in decisions to send individuals to Egypt. When asked if there was any doubt someone would be tortured if he were returned to Egypt, Mr. Baer answered, "Oh absolutely no doubt at all . . . [if you] send them to Egypt it might as well, it's tantamount to condemning them to death." In another part of the program, Mr. Baer stated, regarding sending people overseas, "If you never want to hear from them again, send them to Egypt. That's pretty much the rule." When again asked, "When someone's rendered to Egypt, is there any doubt that they're going to be tortured?" Mr. Baer said, "Oh absolutely no doubt at all."

Yet, the U.S. Government is willing to accept the "diplomatic assurances" of the Egyptian Government that Mr. Sameh Khouzam, who has already been tortured by the Egyptians, will not be tortured if he were to be deported. Our country was founded upon due process, not sending individuals to countries where the likelihood of their being tortured is extremely high, diplomatic assurances to the contrary.

On June 1, 2007, in the Government's Response to the Petition for Writ of Habeas Corpus and Opposition to Petitioner's Motion for Stay of Removal, the U.S. Government told the Court that "substantial embarrassment could result in the diplomatic community" if the Court were to find that Mr. Khouzam would likely be tortured despite assurances from high level Egyptian officials. Since when have we based our foreign and domestic policy on concerns about being embarrassed?

We know the Egyptian government tortures people. What does the U.S. Government want from Egypt in exchange for deporting a Coptic Christian who is reportedly innocent of any charges against him?

Madam Speaker, if Mr. Khouzam is sent back to Egypt, this Administration will bear ultimate responsibility for anything that happens to him.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. TOM FEENEY

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 15, 2007

Mr. FEENEY. Madam Speaker, on rollcall Nos. 448, 449, and 450 I would like to express my regret for missing votes on the House

Floor on Monday, June 11, 2007. My flight, which would have gotten me in town before votes, was delayed 3 hours. I did not get in until 9 pm.

Votes: H.R. 2356—the resolution acknowledging Father's Day; S. 676—Inter-American Foundation Board; H. Res. 418—recognizing and welcoming the delegation of Presidents, Prime Ministers, and Foreign Ministers from the Caribbean. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea."

TRIBUTE TO THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE CANUSA GAMES

HON. DALE E. KILDEE

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 15, 2007

Mr. KILDEE. Madam Speaker, I ask the House of Representatives to join me in congratulating Flint, Michigan and Hamilton, Ontario for 50 years collaborating on the CANUSA Games. The 50th anniversary will be celebrated at a gala community celebration on June 21st in my hometown of Flint.

The CANUSA Games were born in 1957 when Frank Manley and Charles Stewart Mott contacted the Amateur Athletic Union about further competitions for the Flint Olympian winners. The United States Amateur Athletic Union discussed the request with the Canadian Amateur Athletic Union and it was decided to organize a competition between the athletes of Flint and Hamilton, Ontario. That first year, 200 athletes participated in the Games. It was a great success and the tradition of the CANUSA Games began.

Since that beginning the CANUSA Games has grown into an annual event. This year about 1,000 athletes will compete. It is the model for similar athletic events between cities in the United States and Canada. The hallmark of the Games is a spirit of goodwill and friendly competition. The creed for the Games is:

"We swear that we will take part in the CANUSA Games in fair competition, respecting the regulations which govern them and with the desire to participate in the true spirit of sportsmanship, for the glory of sports and for the honor of our country."

Madam Speaker, I ask the House of Representatives to join me in congratulating all the athletes, coaches, coordinators, and volunteers in Hamilton, Ontario and Flint, Michigan for 50 years of dedication to promoting friendship and harmony between our two nations through the spirit of athletic competition.

A TRIBUTE TO REVEREND DR. ARLEE GRIFFIN, JR.

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 15, 2007

Mr. TOWNS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the Reverend Dr. Arlee Griffin, Jr. Reverend Griffin is a native of Elizabeth City North Carolina. An honor graduate of North-eastern High School, Reverend Griffin earned

a bachelor of arts degree in Zoology from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. He later earned a master's of Divinity degree from Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary. Reverend Griffin has also studied at East Carolina University, New York University, the Postgraduate Center for Mental Health in New York City, and abroad at Oxford University in England. He graduated from Boston University with a doctorate of Ministry. In April, 1992, Shaw Divinity School awarded him an honorary doctorate of Divinity.

Reverend Griffin served as pastor of Cornerstone Missionary Baptist Church in Greenville, North Carolina for nearly 10 years. During his tenure, the church experienced unprecedented growth and many new ministries were established, including the Cornerstone Christian Child Care Center. The church later relocated, and in 1996, a new \$1 million facility was built.

Reverend Griffin served in several positions of leadership in both community and religious organizations in North Carolina. Among them: president of the Pitt County Black Ministerial Alliance; moderator and vice-moderator of the Old Eastern Missionary Baptist Association; parliamentarian of the General Baptist State Convention of North Carolina; trustee of Pitt County Memorial Hospital; and campus minister at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

Reverend Griffin became the senior pastor of Brooklyn's Berean Baptist Church in 1989. Under his leadership, the Community Service Center has been revitalized, now offering a full range of social services including emergency food distribution, meals to the homeless and needy, Alcoholics and Narcotics Anonymous groups, employment counseling, training programs and senior citizens' programs. In 1996, the church completed Berean Gardens, a \$7 million senior citizens' housing complex. More recently, the church broke ground on a community and family life center, a 4-story building which includes a primary healthcare center, a full scale gymnasium and a fitness and wellness center.

Reverend Griffin has done missionary work in Senegal, Gambia, West Africa and South Africa and was a delegate to the First African and African-American Summit at the Ivory Coast in 1991. He was selected to be an official international election observer in the first free South African election in April of 1994. Dr. Griffin has also been an associate professor of church administration at the New York Theological Seminary.

Reverend Griffin is married to Mrs. Angela Farr Griffin of Rocky Mount, North Carolina. They have two daughters: Angel Arlecia and Ariel Arlyce.

Madam Speaker, I would like to recognize Reverend Dr. Arlee Griffin, Jr. for his many works and his tremendous contribution to his congregants and the community.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in paying tribute to this wonderful man and his tireless commitment to others.

TRIBUTE TO MARY MCALENEY

HON. MICHAEL H. MICHAUD

OF MAINE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 15, 2007

Mr. MICHAUD. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize a woman from my home

State of Maine who truly embodies the spirit of public service. Mary McAleney is a friend, a trusted advisor, an accomplished professional, and a wonderful person who has devoted her career to serving the people of Maine. Today, I congratulate her on a distinguished career and her upcoming retirement.

A native of Maine, Mary grew up in Vanceboro and attended St. Joseph's Academy in Portland. She is a graduate of Merrimack College in North Andover, Massachusetts. After teaching at Catherine McAuley High School in Portland, she worked in the Maine legislature and as a field organizer for the Maine State Employees Association.

Mary went on to serve for many years as Chief of Staff to Senator George Mitchell. While I was in the Maine Legislature, we had many opportunities to work together, and it was clear to me that she always had the best interests of Maine in mind. She was constantly looking for ways for the Federal Government to help Maine's people and businesses. But the way she went about it was important too—she always worked across the aisle to get things done for Maine. She set high standards for all who worked around her and served as a mentor to staffers, many of whom went on to serve Congressman John Baldacci or who now work on my staff. In this way, her legacy of professionalism, boundless energy, and commitment to public service continues to be felt in Congress.

Most recently, Mary served as Maine's Small Business Administration District Director. In that capacity, she strongly advocated for our State's entrepreneurs and always went the extra mile to support innovative small business development. Whether it was taking the lead on helping businesses affected by mill closures or simply providing first-rate customer service, Mary's devotion to serving our State's small business community was second to none. She cares about people and I could see that she enjoyed helping them realize their dreams.

Mary's commitment to making Maine a better place is an inspiration to all of us who continue to serve in public office. Her warmth and generous spirit are a joy to all who know her. I wish Mary the very best in her retirement: she represents the best of Maine.

HONORING REVEREND DR. SAMUEL SIMPSON

HON. ELIOT L. ENGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 15, 2007

Mr. ENGEL. Madam Speaker, Reverend Dr. Samuel Simpson, pastor of the Bronx Baptist and Wake Eden community Baptist Churches in the Bronx was born in Jamaica W.I. He relocated to the United States in the early sixties. He and his wife Lola Campbell have three children and five grandchildren. He is well known in the Bronx and the West Indian communities throughout the State and beyond.

In addition to leading the Bronx and Wake Eden congregations, Reverend Simpson has been instrumental in starting the Honeywell Baptist Chapel, and a newer mission in the Spring Valley area. Grace Baptist Chapel in the northern section of the Bronx is an offshoot of Bronx Baptist Church. Reverend

Simpson also communicates his strong belief in helping people via the media, and writes a weekly column for the *Carib News*. Periodically he is heard on Family Radio and has been the subject of three books: "What God did for Me," "Sam Simpson, Architect of Hope," and his most recent "To Dream the Impossible Dream."

He serves in many capacities in the Baptist denomination. Among his leadership roles has been president—Baptist Convention of New York for two terms, and moderator—Metropolitan New York Baptist Association. Other areas of service were: president and board chairman of Protestant Council of Churches of New York, president, Bronx division of Council of Churches, chairman of the board and president, Bronx Shepherds Restoration, and board member, Northeastern Bible College. Reverend Dr. Simpson is a true man of God and a firm believer in serving the total person. He has worked tirelessly for his community both within and outside the Bronx seeking to improve the temporal and spiritual aspects of his congregation and his community.

We are a stronger, better community for his work.

HONORING MITCHELL IGNERI AND
STEPHEN CLARKE OF SS. CYRIL
AND METHODIUS SCHOOL IN
DEER PARK, NY

HON. STEVE ISRAEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 15, 2007

Mr. ISRAEL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Mitchell Igneri and Stephen Clarke of SS. Cyril and Methodius School in Deer Park, NY.

Mitchell Igneri and Stephen Clarke are the second prize winners in C-SPAN's "StudentCam" contest. "StudentCam" is a video documentary contest which invites middle and high school students to produce a video exploring a current political topic using C-SPAN programming. Igneri and Clarke won for their video "War in Iraq: The Current Controversy."

The war in Iraq is a tough issue for young Americans to grapple with today, and I would like to acknowledge these students for their excellence and creativity in exploring the political realm which surrounds our current situation in Iraq. I am proud to have been interviewed for this award-winning production.

I congratulate these two students on their achievement and thank them for their contribution to our understanding of the war in Iraq.

COMMENDING RILEY B. KING,
ALSO KNOWN AS BB KING, FOR
HIS RENOWNED ACHIEVEMENTS
AND LASTING INFLUENCE ON
THE MUSIC INDUSTRY

HON. RODNEY ALEXANDER

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 15, 2007

Mr. ALEXANDER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to celebrate Riley B. King's, also known as BB King, accomplished career and influential musical legacy.

Riley B. King has been acknowledged as the "King of the Blues" worldwide. BB King and Charles Evers founded the Medgar Evers Homecoming in Mississippi to memorialize the principles and ideals for which civil rights leader Medgar Evers died. He was appointed Mississippi's World Ambassador of the Blues in 2003, and was named United States Ambassador of Music to the World during the World's Fair in Lisbon, Portugal. Mr. King has received honorary degrees from many universities including Tougaloo College, Yale University, Berklee College of Music, Rhodes College of Memphis, Mississippi Valley State University, and in May of 2007, Brown University.

BB King's accomplishments include multiple Grammy awards, a Grammy Lifetime Achievement Award, the Songwriters' Hall of Fame Lifetime Achievement Award, and a Presidential Medal of the Arts, a National Heritage Fellowship from the National Endowment for the Arts, Kennedy Center Honors, the B'nai B'rith Humanitarian Award, and a 2006 Presidential Medal of Freedom.

He, along with the BB King Blues Band, has performed over 10,000 concerts in 90 countries, including frequent appearances at the New Orleans Jazz and Heritage Festival and numerous other Louisiana venues, including the Paragon Casino in Avoyelles Parish.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in celebrating the accomplishments of Riley B. King. I acknowledge his invaluable talent and significant contribution to not only the State of Louisiana, but our Nation as well.

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE VIL-
LAGE OF FOREST PARK, ILLI-
NOIS ON ITS 100TH YEAR ANNI-
VERSARY.

HON. DANNY K. DAVIS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 15, 2007

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Madam Speaker, 100 years ago the village of Harlem changed its name to Forest Park and since that time has functioned as a municipal government in the state of Illinois located in the western portion of Cook county. The village of Forest Park has had a very interesting origin and development. For thousands of years the Potawatomi Indians and their ancestors lived in the area. They buried their dead along the east bank of the Des Plaines River in the area that is now home of the Forest Home Cemetery. Des Plaines Avenue is known to have been an Indian trail. It lies on top of an ancient sandbar that was on the western edge of Lake Chicago, now Lake Michigan. After Illinois entered the Union, most of the land west of Chicago was set aside for veterans of the war of 1812. By 1835, the area was known as Oak Ridge because of the many oak trees. In 1839, a French and Indian trader, Leon Bourassa, received a land grant from President Martin Van Buren of 160 acres along the Des Plaines River north of what is now Roosevelt Road. By this time the Indians had been banished to west of the Mississippi River, but one Indian maiden remained to tend to the grave of her ancestors. According to legend, she married Leon and they settled here on land which is now part of Forest Home Cemetery. The deed for the government land Bourassa purchased

was personally signed by President Martin Van Buren and is now kept in the Forest Park Library.

The railroad came in 1856, bringing workers who established the first community settlement. A German immigrant, Ferdinand Husse, purchased land in 1851, mostly from Mr. Bourassa, and built a home styled after the manors of New Orleans that he had seen. When he buried 3 members of his family near the homestead, they became the first white settlers to be interred here. When the Chicago and Galena Union Railroad (now the Northwestern), established a division where Des Plaines Avenue now approaches the track in 1856, it marked the beginning of public transportation in the area. Soon after the railroad arrived, a nearby landowner, John Henry Quick, gave part of the area a new name, after his hometown in New York City (Harlem). In the aftermath of the Chicago fire in 1871, many refugees came to this area to build their homes, and their community continued to grow and develop.

The Altenheim German Old People's Home opened in 1885 and boasts the original victorian building still in use. The building has been popular with Hollywood and it has been used as a location for three movies. In 1973, 20th century film "Harry and Fontaine". Art Carney, the film star, won an Oscar for his performance and in 1988, scenes were shot there with Gene Hackman in the package. Finally, in 1995, the building was again used for exterior shots for the movie "The Babe", starring John Goodman. In the Waldheim Cemetery now merged with Forest Home, are buried Albert Parsons, Adolph Spies, Adolph Fisher and George Engel. These 4 men were executed on November 11, 1887 for their alleged part in the Haymarket Riot. Waldheim, the only Cemetery that would accept the bodies, hosted over 15,000 persons who attended the funeral. Governor John Peter Altgeld later exonerated the men and pardoned 3 others sentenced to life imprisonment. These 7 soon became martyrs in the eyes of the labor movement. Ceremonies are now held at the gravesite each year honoring the fallen labor heroes.

A sausage factory started in 1890 by Karl Lau became the area's first industry, the metropolitan westside "El" began electrified rapid transit service in 1895 and because it ran through Garfield Park, it became known as the Garfield Line.

In 1897, the installation of electric lighting for "whomever desired this service", was available to those living or doing business on Madison Street, and the telephone came in 1898. In 1898, Nicholas Shank built the very tall multistory building known as the Castle (at Harlem and Madison) which still stands. It was said to be the tallest building between Chicago and St. Louis. By 1904, Henry J. Mohr had served 3 terms as president of Harlem. After the village changed its name to Forest Park in 1907, he served 4 more terms from 1909 through 1912. The office of president was then changed to mayor in 1916 and of course, Mohr was elected to yet another 4 years. This time it became an extended period of 6 years because the election was not held at the proper time. Thus Henry J. Mohr was the last president and the first mayor of Forest Park, serving a record 13 years as head of local government. Of course Forest Park has continued to grow and develop into a city of great

homes, schools, shopping centers, and recreational outlets. It is home to the world renowned Living Word Christian Center Complex Mall under the leadership of Pastor Bill Winston.

Madam Speaker, I take this opportunity to congratulate mayor Anthony Calderone, trustees, other village officials and all citizens on the 100th anniversary of the village of Forest Park, Illinois.

IN HONOR OF THE 2007 NBA
CHAMPION SAN ANTONIO SPURS

HON. LAMAR SMITH

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 15, 2007

Mr. SMITH of Texas. Madam Speaker, it's a great pleasure to recognize our 2007 National Basketball Association champions, the San Antonio Spurs!

Last night, the Spurs closed out the series by sweeping the Cleveland Cavaliers to win their fourth NBA Championship in the last nine years.

The Spurs again displayed their teamwork, grit, and determination on basketball's biggest stage. The Spurs were led by the post presence of Tim Duncan, the innovation and toughness of Manu Ginobili, the defensive pressure of Bruce Bowen and the quickness of Tony Parker.

By controlling the tempo and driving to the basket at will, Tony Parker won his first NBA Finals Most Valuable Player award. For the series, Parker shot an amazing 57 percent from the field and averaged 24.5 points.

Much deserved credit goes to Coach Gregg Popovich. With four championships, Coach Popovich has cemented his legacy as one of the greatest basketball coaches of all time.

Congratulations go as well to the Spurs' owners, Peter and Julianna Holt and to all the Spurs' supporters.

We congratulate the Spurs for their tremendous play, their professionalism on and off the court, and for bringing home yet another title to the Alamo City.

IN MEMORY OF NORM MALENG

HON. DAVID G. REICHERT

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 15, 2007

Mr. REICHERT. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to my dear friend, colleague, and mentor, Norm Maleng, who passed away on Thursday, May 24, at the age of 68.

I stand here today in part because of Norm's influence, mentorship, and encouragement in both my run for King County Sheriff and the United States Congress.

As the King County Prosecutor and one of the longest-serving elected officials in State history, Norm served the county, State, and our Nation with integrity and justice. In the public eye, he will be remembered for his prosecutions of high-profile crimes and his contributions to much of the major crime legislation passed during the 1980s.

One of the largest law offices in the state of Washington, the King County Prosecutor's Of-

fice staff totals over 500 employees. Norm always wanted the best for each individual who worked with him and for him.

As I've reflected on the many memories that I shared with him, one particular moment stuck out to me that I'll always remember. One day I said, "Boy, I really have a challenge today, Norm," to which he responded "There are no challenges, Dave, only opportunities."

His philosophy was to approach each day with optimism and a smile.

Through the impact he made upon the King County community, the families who found justice through his dedication, and the lives that he touched—his legacy will live on.

In his honor, I ask that the following article be submitted into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD:

[From the Seattle Times, June 14, 2007]

MALENG AND UW: A SPECIAL BOND

(By Roland Hjorth)

Norm Maleng graduated from the University of Washington Law School in 1966. He was one of my first students and I felt a special bond because we both grew up on farms in rural communities. I think his commitment to public service grew directly out of his small-town roots.

The law school is proud of its graduates who have led lives of public service. They have included two of our nation's most powerful senators, a speaker of the House of Representatives and members of the judiciary who have risen to national prominence.

Norm Maleng was prominent in that company of leaders. He was a man of ambition and a man of values. But when he had to make hard decisions, values always trumped ambition. He was a deeply religious man whose religion was crucial in shaping his life, but he was too respectful of the views of others to be evangelical about it.

Norm had the gift of being grateful for the things that molded his character, enhanced his skills and helped him to enter the legal profession. He was always grateful for the early life that his parents gave him. He was also grateful for his education at the UW Law School, once telling me that the law school was where he got his "union card" and he would never forget it; and, he never did.

When I first became dean of the law school, I asked Norm to serve on our advisory board on strategic planning. He promptly became one of its most active and effective members. During our deliberations, he once said that almost all students enter law school wanting to do good and too often graduate wanting only to do well. He admonished us that this should never happen at the UW Law School.

Norm's influence has had an impact on our requirement that every student must fulfill a public-service obligation before graduating. He was happy to know that the most thriving group in the law school is the Public Interest Law Association, which raises surprising amounts of money every year to support summer public-service law internships for law students. Norm was thrilled when the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation endowed one of the nation's most significant public-service scholarship programs at the UW School of Law.

From his early leadership on the law school advisory board, he went on to serve as a trustee of the Washington Law School Foundation for well over a decade. Norm became president of the foundation and had completed his term of office shortly before his death. During that term, he led an effort to solicit contributions to the law school from law firms in this city and especially from members of those firms who are grad-

uates of the UW Law School. I like to think he reminded many that this was where they got their union card.

The Washington Law School Foundation has established a Norm Maleng Fund. I share the foundation's earnest hope that sufficient funds will be raised to establish a fitting memorial for one whose life has inspired so many of our students and so many lawyers in our community.

ENCOURAGING DISPLAY OF THE
FLAG ON FATHER'S DAY

SPEECH OF

HON. TODD TIAHRT

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 11, 2007

Mr. TIAHRT. Mr. Speaker, today I was very pleased to help honor America's fathers by voting for H.R. 2356. This bill amends title 4 of the U.S. Code that governs how and when it is appropriate to fly the flag of the United States. I recently introduced similar legislation in this Congress, and I am pleased to work with other Members of Congress on both sides of the aisle to move this idea forward.

Prior to 1923, flag etiquette was not established in U.S. law. Handling of the flag was done in accordance with traditions that traced back to service procedures in the Army and Navy. These procedures were codified during the National Flag Conference in 1923. Congress solidified these procedures in a joint resolution in 1942.

Contained within this code is a list of holidays on which it is especially appropriate to fly the flag. Independence Day, Memorial Day and Veterans' Day are among the holidays listed. Mother's Day is rightfully on the list of recognized holidays. Unfortunately, Father's Day is not.

This idea was actually suggested to me by Mr. Joe Beffer's 8th grade civics class at Roosevelt Middle School in Coffeyville, Kansas. The students had a six week assignment to replicate the legislative process, complete with elected Representatives, Senators, and a President.

One young man noticed that our flag code did not recognize Father's Day as a holiday on which it is especially encouraged to fly our Nation's flag. He offered a bill to add Father's Day to the honored holidays and it passed their replica Congress. I was honored when the class passed their idea to me. I am pleased to be a part of this Congress' efforts to help honor the contributions America's fathers continue to make to our strong Nation.

TRIBUTE TO MAYOR CHARLES
MITCHELL

HON. ROBERT E. (BUD) CRAMER, JR.

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 15, 2007

Mr. CRAMER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a friend and North Alabama community leader, former Muscle Shoals Mayor Charles Mitchell.

Madam Speaker, some of our colleagues may remember Charles Mitchell. Before his election as Mayor, he served over fourteen

years as an aide to Senator Howell Heflin. He also worked for Senators Lister Hill, James Allen, and Maryon Allen before joining Senator Heflin's staff in 1978.

In 1992, the City of Muscle Shoals, Alabama reorganized its government into the current mayor-council structure that it utilizes today. Mayor Mitchell was elected as the city's first mayor.

During his two terms as Mayor, he worked to change the face of the city through numerous building campaigns, including a new high school, a modern library, recreational facilities, and a post office. He also successfully worked to establish an early warning system and address the city's flooding problem.

Madam Speaker, Mayor Mitchell passed away last Saturday. He is survived by his wife Betty and daughters Leslie Ann and Carrie, stepdaughters Kim, Shannon, and Laurel, as well as five grandchildren and step-grandchildren.

Mayor Mitchell was a good friend, community and civic leader that will be missed in both Alabama and Washington. His willingness to help others and dedication to his community is an inspiration for all in North Alabama and across the country to follow. I rise today to celebrate his life and honor his achievements.

IN RECOGNITION OF MRS. RUTH ZISES

HON. GARY L. ACKERMAN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 15, 2007

Mr. ACKERMAN. Madam Speaker, it is with a heavy heart that I rise today to honor the memory of Ruth Zises, a dear friend and role model, who sadly succumbed to illness earlier this year.

Ruth was a unique woman whose presence brightened the faces and warmed the hearts of everyone she encountered. Ruth was a deeply principled woman who wore her passions with profound pride. She was enormously dedicated to her family and friends and intensely devoted to her beliefs. Ruth translated her convictions into action by founding, together with her family, the Genesis Center in Jerusalem, an academy devoted to enhancing the lives of young adults by incorporating Jewish scholarship with civic engagement and political action. Ruth's service and support of countless other institutions, organizations and charities made her a model of generosity.

While Ruth's attention to the needs of her community was commendable, her family was always the focal point of her life. Ruth's devotion to her husband Bernie, sons Selig, Seymour and Jay, her nine grandchildren and six great-grandchildren, inspired all who knew her.

Ruth's life will be celebrated at the Annual Reishit/Genesis Center Dinner on Tuesday, June 19, 2007. In honor of her memory, Reishit students who have completed their study of the entire Mishnah will make a presentation at the event.

Madam Speaker, words can not capture the generosity of spirit and warmth that Ruth Zises exuded. All that can be said is that she will be terribly missed by the scores of people fortunate enough to have had known her.

Madam Speaker, I ask all of my colleagues to join me in recognizing and remembering the exemplary life of Ruth Zises.

RECOGNIZING A GREAT MINNESOTA GAY RIGHTS LEADER

HON. KEITH ELLISON

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 15, 2007

Mr. ELLISON. Madam Speaker, it is fitting that the Twin Cities Pride Parade falls on the same day that former Minnesota State Senator Allan Spear celebrates his 70th birthday. For those unfamiliar with the legacy Allan created in Minnesota, I want to take this moment to recognize him, thank him, and extend my wishes for a very happy birthday.

Allan served in the Minnesota State Senate from 1972 to 2000. He is widely recognized as not only the first openly gay legislator in Minnesota, but in the Nation, as well. Allan was certainly in uncharted waters—this was long before organizations like the Human Rights Campaign (HRC) or the Victory Fund even existed. I've read accounts that Allan went public because he felt "lousy" for staying silent about his sexuality during an antidiscrimination bill debate. His commitment to equal rights never wavered and I think our new generation of GLBT legislators and allies is a testament to his courage and honesty.

In 1993, Allan was elected President of the Senate—the same year he succeeded in guiding the passage of Minnesota's gay civil rights law. During the debate on this legislation, several senators described homosexuality as "a choice, not a condition of birth." Spear famously replied, "I'm 55 years old; it's not a phase." The amendment to Minnesota's civil rights law is an incredible achievement.

Although I did not have the opportunity to work with Allan during my time in the Minnesota legislature, his accomplishments over 28 years in the State Senate certainly inspire my own work on civil and human rights.

It is an honor for me to recognize Allan during our month of celebrating the accomplishments and contributions of the GLBT community. Allan has made a real difference in the quality of family life in Minnesota. Because of his unwavering commitment, we have much to celebrate, and more to be hopeful for! Thank you, Allan.

INTRODUCTION OF LEGISLATION ON INTERNATIONAL UNITED NATIONS PEACEKEEPING DAY

HON. JOHN P. SARBANES

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 15, 2007

Mr. SARBANES. Madam Speaker, I rise today to introduce legislation commemorating the work of United Nations Peacekeepers by recognizing May 29 as International United Nations Peacekeeping Day.

Since 1945, our U.N. Peacekeepers have aided in resolving a wide array of very complex regional conflicts across the globe. In many cases, these individuals have put themselves at great risk and indeed made the ultimate sacrifice on behalf of a safer, more secure global community. Since its inception, the United Nations has undertaken 61 field missions and helped implement 172 peaceful settlements. These missions have ended regional

conflicts and enabled people in more than 45 countries to take part in free and fair elections. More than 2,355 individuals from 113 nations, including the United States, have given their lives to this cause.

In the past 3 years alone, U.N. peacekeeping has helped to initiate missions in Liberia, Côte d'Ivoire, Haiti, Burundi, Sudan, and East Timor, and bolstered the missions in the Democratic Republic of the Congo and Lebanon. These missions often come with difficult and complex mandates such as containing or preventing the outbreak of conflict and its spill-over across borders or helping implement peace agreements. In 2005 alone, U.N. peacekeepers supported elections in five post-conflict countries, including Afghanistan, Burundi, Iraq, Liberia, and the Democratic Republic of the Congo. Through these efforts, over 56 million people were allowed to cast votes.

Currently, the U.N. Department of Peacekeeping Operations has more than 100,000 troops and personnel deployed in 18 peacekeeping missions and 13 political missions worldwide, all with an annual budget of \$6 billion. This U.N. peacekeeping force has grown five-fold over the last 10 years, reflecting not only the broad international support for U.N. peacekeeping, but also the U.S. support for new and expanded peacekeeping missions.

In 2005, the Human Security Report, a major international study funded in part by the Rockefeller Foundation, judged that, perhaps contrary to popular belief, civil strife has plummeted 80 percent worldwide since the early 90s. It attributed that decline to the rise in international activism, in particular the increase in support for and deployment of U.N. peacekeeping missions and their growing complexity.

The U.S. Office of Management and Budget recently granted all U.S. contributions made to international peacekeeping activities three-stars, its highest rating. This distinction is reserved for expenditures that "set ambitious goals, achieve results, are well-managed, and improve efficiency."

Madam Speaker, I take this opportunity to commend the work and courage of our U.N. peacekeepers around the globe and the logistical guidance provided by the U.N. Department of Peacekeeping Operations. I hope you will join me in supporting this resolution drawing attention to these brave men and women and in honoring those who have sacrificed their lives in the name of international peace.

DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2008

SPEECH OF

HON. PHIL HARE

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 14, 2007

Mr. HARE. Mr. Chairman, I rise in strong opposition to the amendment offered by the Gentleman from Kentucky that would strip critical Davis-Bacon protections from H.R. 2638, the fiscal year 2008 Department of Homeland Security Appropriations Act.

The goal of the Davis-Bacon Act is to protect local construction wage standards by preventing contractors from bidding for federally

funded contracts on the basis of wages lower than those prevailing in the area.

Davis-Bacon applies to procurement of construction services by Federal agencies; however, it does not automatically apply to construction projects financed in whole or in part by federal grants and other forms of federal financial assistance to states and localities.

Section 536 has therefore been included in H.R. 2638 in order to assure the consistent application of Davis-Bacon prevailing wage standards to construction projects funded with federal assistance.

Contrary to arguments we have heard this morning, numerous recent academic studies demonstrate that the application of Davis-Bacon prevailing wage standards to construction projects does not substantially increase the cost of public works projects.

Additionally, claims that the application of Davis-Bacon prevailing wage standards to recipients of DHS grants violates states' rights raise a legal argument that was resolved 70 years ago when the Supreme Court held that federal statutes which offer financial assistance subject to acceptance of federal standards do not invade state sovereignty. The statute simply extends the right for states and localities to accept or reject the opportunity to obtain DHS grants and other federal financial assistance to help meet security and recovery needs.

By guaranteeing payment of the prevailing local wage rate, Davis-Bacon provides a better standard of living and economic security for workers, particularly in rural communities and small towns like those in my Congressional district. It is crucial that these protections remain in H.R. 2638. Accordingly, I urge my colleagues to reject the Rogers Amendment.

TO HONOR MARTHA ANN CASE
JARVIS

HON. G.K. BUTTERFIELD

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 15, 2007

Mr. BUTTERFIELD. Madam Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to an outstanding citizen, Mrs. Martha Case Jarvis. Mrs. Jarvis was not a pioneer in the field of medicine, but she certainly found innovative ways of caring for the medical needs of her six children. Her field of expertise was not in the world of business, although she taught her children the importance of hard work. Mrs. Jarvis worked two jobs her entire life. She was an exceptional homemaker, and she worked tirelessly in the fields until her health no longer permitted. Between these two occupations, she instilled in her children integrity, honesty, diligence, faith, persistence, and the ability to see that hard work yields great rewards.

Mrs. Jarvis was born on June 14, 1917 to the late Joseph and Emily Case in the backwoods of Powells Point, North Carolina. She was the fifth of eight children and is now the sole survivor. Joseph Case was a Surferman in the United States Lifesaving Service, while Emily was the homemaker.

Madam Speaker, Mrs. Jarvis met, fell in love, and married Columbus Jarvis in 1934. This union produced six outstanding children: Norma Shirley of Barco, N.C.; Patricia Ann of Wappingers Falls, N.Y.; Ardella J. of Moyock,

N.C.; Lenora J. of Elizabeth City, N.C.; William of Camp Springs, Md.; and Leonard of Freeport, N.Y. Norma, now retired, worked as a nurses' aid and was a homemaker like her mother. Patricia Ann, now retired, was a school teacher. Ardella, now retired, was a teacher's assistant. Lenora is currently serving as President, CEO, and Co-Founder of the River City Community Development Corporation. William III retired from the Air Force and is currently employed with the Army and Air Force Exchange System. Leonard is an Independent Insurance Account Executive and the assistant pastor of the Berean Baptist Church in Brooklyn, New York. Martha Case Jarvis is the proud grandmother of fourteen and great-grandmother of seven children.

June 14th marks Mrs. Jarvis' 90th birthday. She has seen many significant historical events over the past 90 years, including six wars, more presidents than she can remember, and several heartbreaking national disasters. During her life Mrs. Jarvis has faced a countless number of personal trials, but she never faltered. She knew she had a family to raise and a home to run, and she did both with a lot of elbow grease, tenacity, and tender loving care.

Outside of her home, Mrs. Jarvis was very active in her church and community. She was a devoted member of the Eastern Stars. She was also one of the first African-Americans to qualify to register and vote in Currituck County.

While Martha Case Jarvis did not set the world on fire with inventions or miraculous medical cures, she has certainly made a difference to the hundreds of people she touched along the way. Her children are eternally grateful for her guidance and devotion, and they are honored to follow in her footsteps. I ask my colleagues to join me in paying tribute to this outstanding citizen.

TRIBUTE TO COLONEL JAMES F.
KING, JR.

HON. JACK KINGSTON

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 15, 2007

Mr. KINGSTON. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to an exceptional officer of the United States Army, Colonel James F. King, Jr., upon his retirement after more than 20 years of distinguished service to our Nation.

I came to know Colonel Jim King in 2001 when he was selected as an Army Congressional Fellow, and became my Military Legislative Assistant during the historic year following the tragic events of September 11th. Our Nation was still recovering from the attacks, and we were thrust into the war against terror in Afghanistan. Jim handled all my National Defense matters during this very challenging time in our Nation's history, and he did an outstanding job.

Prior to becoming a Congressional Fellow, Colonel King had a long and distinguished career in the Army. After graduating from Georgia State University in 1985, he attended the United States Army Officer Candidate School at Fort Benning, Georgia and was commissioned as a Second Lieutenant. After his initial assignment as a Second Lieutenant, he was

selected to attend Flight School at Fort Rucker, Alabama, and was the Honor Graduate of his class.

Following flight school in 1988, Colonel King served in many command and staff positions worldwide. He served in Korea where he flew helicopter missions in and out of the DMZ. Later he served in Germany where he flew aerial reconnaissance missions along the former East German border, and directly contributed to our Nation's Cold War victory. Upon return from Germany, Colonel King served at Hunter Army Airfield in Savannah, Georgia and supported Operation Uphold Democracy in Haiti, and flew reconnaissance missions against Cuba.

In 1995 Colonel King was assigned to the Army's Operational Support Airlift Command where he served in numerous leadership positions coordinating operations and training for over 80 subordinate units throughout the globe, and orchestrating uninterrupted airlift support for Theater Commanders in Saudi Arabia and Bosnia. He was then selected for C-20 Gulfstream jet training in Savannah, Georgia, before taking Command of the Army's elite jet detachment in Hawaii. While in command, Colonel King successfully managed a complex split-based operation, providing Humanitarian support in East Timor, while simultaneously providing worldwide airlift support to senior military and civilian leaders throughout Pacific Command (PACOM).

Following his command in the Pacific, Colonel King returned to Washington where he served as an aviation staff officer, and helped develop the Army's fixed-wing doctrine and future cargo airplane requirements. Colonel King was then selected for the Army Congressional Fellowship Program where he served as my Military Legislative Assistant. Following his Fellowship, Colonel King served as the Deputy Chief of Legislative Liaison at National Guard Bureau, and then as Deputy Chief for Reserve Affairs at Army Congressional Liaison in the Pentagon.

During his time as a Congressional Legislative Liaison, Colonel King provided outstanding leadership, advice, and sound professional judgment on numerous critical issues of enduring importance to both the Army and the Congress. Jim's counsel and support were invaluable to Army leaders and Members of Congress as they considered the impact of their decisions on these important issues, and it is my privilege to recognize his many contributions. I commend his superb service to the United States Army and our great Nation.

On behalf of Congress and the United States of America, I thank Colonel Jim King, his wife Cindy, and his entire family for the commitment, sacrifices, and contributions that they have made throughout his honorable military service. I congratulate Colonel Jim King on completing an exceptional and extremely successful military career, and wish him blessings and success in all his future endeavors.

WE NEED IMMIGRATION REFORM

HON. GABRIELLE GIFFORDS

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 15, 2007

Ms. GIFFORDS. Madam Speaker, I rise today in order to express my congratulations

to the bipartisan coalition of Senators that succeeded in reviving their efforts to pass a comprehensive immigration reform package this year.

I applaud the decision made by my colleagues in the other Chamber to bring their bill back to the floor for debate. There will be an opportunity for amendments, from both sides of the aisle, in order to craft a final version of this legislation.

It is also time for the House to get an immigration reform package to the floor so that the President will get a bill to his desk soon.

In southern Arizona, immigration reform is not just a political debate. Funding that this bill promises will go directly to the front lines, to places like Douglas, Elfrida, Bisbee, Tubac, and Naco. Passing comprehensive immigration reform will ensure that in Arizona and elsewhere along the border our communities will have the resources available to secure our border and relieve communities from the burden of illegal immigration.

My district knows first hand what happens when people in Washington turn their heads away from the issue of illegal immigration. I urge all of us to keep working toward legislation that will create a comprehensive immigration policy.

We must work alongside our colleagues in the Senate to craft a solution that is in the best interest for all Americans.

TRIBUTE TO STAFF SGT.
MATTHEW KUGLICS

HON. RALPH REGULA

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 15, 2007

Mr. REGULA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a hero from my district, Staff Sgt. Matthew Kuglics. Matthew was one of two airmen who died in Kirkuk, Iraq when their vehicle was hit by a roadside bomb. He had just celebrated his 25th birthday. I ask the House of Representatives to honor this courageous young man who died in service to his country. Matthew grew up in North Canton and grad-

uated from Green High School where he played soccer. His family, friends and loved ones fondly recall his sense of humor and contagious smile. After graduation he joined the Air Force and was stationed at Lackland Air Force Base and was on his second tour of Iraq as an agent within the Air Force Office of Special Investigations.

I would like to extend my deepest sympathy to his mother and father, Donna and Les Kuglics, his sister Emily and all of his family and friends who mourn the loss of this incredible young man. The day they had to say farewell to Matthew was probably the hardest day the family has faced and my thoughts and prayers go out to them. Matthew was laid to rest on Wednesday, June 13, 2007. I thank Matthew for the sacrifice he made by answering the call to fight for our freedom and security.

HONORING TOM JURICH, 2007 ATHLETIC DIRECTOR OF THE YEAR

HON. JOHN A. YARMUTH

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 15, 2007

Mr. YARMUTH. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the National Athletic Director of the Year, Tom Jurich. While it has taken 10 years at the helm of the Cardinal athletics program for him to be honored as the nation's finest AD, in my hometown of Louisville, this has been a well-known fact almost from the start.

When Tom Jurich first arrived on the University of Louisville campus in 1997, he took control of a program with little to brag about off the hardwood. Today, the Cardinal baseball team will play in the college world series—an amazing achievement for a club that had never played a single post season game prior to Jurich's arrival. Today's appearance makes UofL one of just two schools to have played in the Final Four, a BCS bowl, and the Final Four in the last 3 years.

While these accomplishments are astounding, they are the norm for a leader who regularly achieves the impossible.

Leading a top 10 track program just a few years after the team, in Jurich's words, couldn't "have finished third in its own intramural meet before." Impossible.

Winning the Orange Bowl a decade after the team failed to win a second game. Impossible.

Enticing Rick Pitino to town just 4 years after his historic run at UK. Incredibly impossible.

But, with Tom Jurich, nothing is impossible in Louisville.

This year he fielded new teams in four sports, sent nine teams to NCAA tournaments, and UofL—once a school that struggled to comply with Title IX regulations—now exceeds those regulations.

For all the awards, all the accolades, and all the accomplishments, however, Tom Jurich's greatest calling card is his consistent recognition that he is dealing not just with athletes, but with student athletes. Half of his student athletes receive at least a B average.

His commitment to the whole University has consistently been displayed through his dynamic partnership with President James Ramsey. Their leadership has helped transform the campus's landscape and level of pride, facilitating UofL's shift from a largely commuter school to a top notch higher-learning institution capable of attracting the brightest students in the nation and around the globe. With the openings of Papa John's Cardinal Stadium, Jim Patterson Field, Cardinal Park, the most modern practice facilities in the nation, and the announcement of a new basketball arena, the momentum of the Athletic Department has helped spur a decade of unparalleled growth throughout the University.

Today, as the Cardinal baseball team embarks on another new chapter for the University of Louisville, it is clear that under Tom Jurich's leadership more and greater milestones lay ahead for the athletic department, the University, and the city of Louisville. I am happy he calls Louisville his home, awed by his success, and proud to have the opportunity to congratulate Tom Jurich, 2007 Athletic Director of the Year. Go Cards!

Daily Digest

HIGHLIGHTS

The House passed H.R. 2638, Department of Homeland Security Appropriations Act, 2008

The House passed H.R. 2642, Military Construction and Veterans Affairs Appropriations Act, 2008

Senate

Chamber Action

Routine Proceedings, pages S7779–S7799

Measures Introduced: Six bills were introduced, as follows: S. 1633–1638. **Page S7792**

Measures Considered:

CLEAN Energy Act: Senate continued consideration of H.R. 6, to reduce our Nation's dependency on foreign oil by investing in clean, renewable, and alternative energy resources, promoting new emerging energy technologies, developing greater efficiency, and creating a Strategic Energy Efficiency and Renewables Reserve to invest in alternative energy, taking action on the following amendment proposed thereto: **Pages S7780–89**

Adopted:

Salazar Amendment No. 1524 (to Amendment No. 1502), to express the sense of Congress relating to the use of renewable resources to generate energy. **Pages S7785–87**

Pending:

Reid Amendment No. 1502, in the nature of a substitute. **Page S7780**

Reid (for Bingaman) Amendment No. 1537 (to Amendment No. 1502), to provide for a renewable portfolio standard. **Page S7780**

Klobuchar (for Bingaman) Amendment No. 1573 (to Amendment No. 1537), to provide for a renewable portfolio standard. **Page S7780**

Bingaman (for Klobuchar) Amendment No. 1557 (to Amendment No. 1502), to establish a national greenhouse gas registry. **Page S7780**

Kohl Amendment No. 1519 (to Amendment No. 1502), to amend the Sherman Act to make oil-producing and exporting cartels illegal. **Page S7780**

Kohl (for DeMint) Amendment No. 1546 (to Amendment No. 1502), to provide that legislation that would increase the national average fuel prices for automobiles is subject to a point of order in the Senate. **Page S7780**

Corker Amendment No. 1608 (to Amendment No. 1502), to allow clean fuels to meet the renewable fuel standard. **Pages S7780–81**

Cardin Amendment No. 1520 (to Amendment No. 1502), to promote the energy independence of the United States. **Pages S7781–82**

Domenici (for Thune) Amendment No. 1609 (to Amendment No. 1502), to provide requirements for the designation of national interest electric transmission corridors. **Pages S7782–83**

Cardin Amendment No. 1610 (to Amendment No. 1502), to provide for the siting, construction, expansion, and operation of liquefied natural gas terminals. **Pages S7783–85**

Collins Amendment No. 1615 (to Amendment No. 1502), to provide for the development and coordination of a comprehensive and integrated United States research program that assists the people of the United States and the world to understand, assess, and predict human-induced and natural processes of abrupt climate change. **Pages S7798–99**

A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that Senate resume consideration of the bill at 3:30 p.m., on Monday, June 18, 2007. **Page S7798**

Additional Cosponsors: **Pages S7792–93**

Statements on Introduced Bills/Resolutions: **Page S7793**

Additional Statements: **Pages S7791–92**

Amendments Submitted: **Pages S7793–98**

Adjournment: Senate convened at 9:30 a.m. and adjourned at 11:57 a.m., until 2 p.m. on Monday, June 18, 2007. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Acting Majority Leader in today's Record on page S7798.)

Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

No committee meetings were held.

House of Representatives

Chamber Action

Public Bills and Resolutions Introduced: 24 public bills, H.R. 2736–2759; 1 private bill, H.R. 2760; and 3 resolutions, H. Con. Res. 170; and H. Res. 489–490, were introduced. **Pages H6576–77**

Additional Cosponsors: **Pages H6577–78**

Reports Filed: Reports were filed today as follows:

H.R. 2284, to amend the Small Business Act to expand and improve the assistance provided by Small Business Development Centers to Indian tribe members, Alaska Natives, and Native Hawaiians (H. Rept. 110–192):

H.R. 2359, to reauthorize programs to assist small business concerns, and for other purposes (H. Rept. 110–193);

H.R. 2366, to reauthorize the veterans entrepreneurial development programs of the Small Business Administration, and for other purposes (H. Rept. 110–194); and

H.R. 2397, to reauthorize the women's entrepreneurial development programs of the Small Business Administration, and for other purposes (H. Rept. 110–195). **Page H6576**

Speaker: Read a letter from the Speaker wherein she appointed Representative McNulty to act as Speaker Pro Tempore for today. **Page H6479**

Department of Homeland Security Appropriations Act, 2008: The House passed H.R. 2638, making appropriations for the Department of Homeland Security for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2008, by a yeas-and-nays vote of 268 yeas to 150 nays, Roll No. 491. Consideration of the measure began on June 12th. **Pages H6480–H6518**

Rejected the Lewis (CA) motion to recommit the bill to the Committee on Appropriations with instructions to report the same back to the House forthwith with an amendment, by a yeas-and-nays vote of 200 yeas to 217 nays, Roll No. 490. **Pages H6516–17**

Agreed to:

Foxx amendment (No. 33 printed in the Congressional Record of June 11, 2007) that reduces fund-

ing for the Office of the Secretary and Executive Management by \$1,241,000 (by a recorded vote of 216 yeas to 198 noes, Roll No. 467); **Pages H6481–82**

Fallin amendment (No. 31 printed in the Congressional Record of June 11, 2007) that reduces funding for the Office of the Secretary and Executive Management by \$138,000 (by a recorded vote of 248 yeas to 168 noes, Roll No. 468); **Page H6482**

Drake amendment (No. 9 printed in the Congressional Record of June 11, 2007) that reduces funding for the Office of the Under Secretary for Management by \$10,400,000, and increase funding, by offset, for the Office of Immigration and Customs Enforcement by \$9,100,000 (by a recorded vote of 286 yeas to 127 noes, Roll No. 469); **Pages H6482–83**

King (NY) amendment that increases funding, by offset, for the domestic nuclear detection office management and administration account by \$40 million (by a recorded vote of 282 yeas to 137 noes, Roll No. 470); **Pages H6483–84**

Ginny Brown-Waite (FL) amendment (No. 13 printed in the Congressional Record of June 11, 2007) that increases funding, by offset, for the border security fencing, infrastructure, and technology account by \$89.125 million (by a recorded vote of 241 yeas to 179 noes, Roll No. 471); **Page H6484**

Burgess amendment that increases funding, by offset, for the transportation threat assessment and credentialing by \$15 million (by a recorded vote of 251 yeas to 171 noes, Roll No. 472); **Page H6485**

Ferguson amendment that increases funding, by offset, to buffer zone protection under the State and Local Programs account by \$50 million (by a recorded vote of 239 yeas to 183 noes, Roll No. 473); **Pages H6485–86**

King (IA) amendment (No. 105 printed in the Congressional Record of June 12, 2007) that reduces and increases the United States Immigration and Customs Enforcement Salaries and Expenses account by \$5 million (by a recorded vote of 228 yeas to 195 noes, Roll No. 478); **Pages H6489–90**

LaTourette amendment (No. 113 printed in the Congressional Record of June 12, 2007) that prohibits funds from being used by the Secretary of

Homeland Security to develop any plan under the Intelligence Reform and Terrorism Prevention Act of 2004 before June 1, 2009 (by a recorded vote of 379 ayes to 45 noes, Roll No. 483); **Pages H6492–93**

Tancredo amendment (No. 7 printed in the Congressional Record of June 11, 2007) that sought to prohibit funds from being used in contravention of the Illegal Immigration Reform and Immigrant Responsibility Act of 1996 (by a recorded vote of 234 ayes to 189 noes, Roll No. 485); and **Pages H6494–95**

Price (NC) amendment that increases Firefighter Assistance Grants by \$5,058,000, which shall be available to carry out section 34 of the Federal Fire Prevention and Control Act of 1974. **Pages H6497–98**

Rejected:

McHenry amendment to Foxx amendment that sought to replace the dollar amount proposed in the Foxx amendment for the Office of the Secretary and Executive Management with “\$8,961,000” (by a recorded vote of 108 ayes to 300 noes, Roll No. 466); **Pages H6480–81**

McHenry amendment that sought to increase funding, by offset, for the United States Citizenship and Immigration Services by \$30 million (by recorded vote of 207 ayes to 214 noes, Roll No. 474); **Pages H6486–87**

Pearce amendment that sought to increase funds, by offset, to the United States Customs and Border Protection Salaries and Expenses by \$125 million (by a recorded vote of 96 ayes to 327 noes, Roll No. 475); **Page H6487**

Carter amendment that sought to strike the proviso regarding border fencing requirements under the Border Security, Fencing, Infrastructure, and Technology heading (by a recorded vote of 190 ayes to 233 noes, Roll No. 476); **Page H6488**

McCaul (TX) amendment (No. 98 printed in the Congressional Record of June 12, 2007) that sought to strike a proviso under the Air and Marine Interdiction, Operations, Maintenance, and Procurement heading (by a recorded vote of 192 ayes to 232 noes, Roll No. 477); **Pages H6488–89**

Bilbray amendment that relates to funding for REAL ID (by a recorded vote of 155 ayes to 268 noes, Roll No. 479); **Page H6490**

McCaul (TX) amendment (No. 99 printed in the Congressional Record of June 12, 2007) that sought to strike section 531 relating to the MAX–HR project (by a recorded vote of 184 ayes to 238 noes, Roll No. 480); **Pages H6490–91**

Rogers (KY) amendment (No. 2 printed in the Congressional Record of June 11, 2007) that relates to a limitation on total number of airport screeners (by a recorded vote of 168 ayes to 255 noes, Roll No. 481); **Pages H6491–92**

Poe amendment (No. 28 printed in the Congressional Record of June 11, 2007) that sought to prohibit funds from being used by the Secretary of Homeland Security to develop a plan that permits travel into the United States from foreign countries using any document other than a passport (by a recorded vote of 89 ayes to 331 noes, Roll No. 482); **Page H6492**

Tancredo amendment that sought to prohibit funds in this Act from being used to carry out a visa waiver program (by a recorded vote of 76 ayes to 347 noes, Roll No. 484); **Pages H6493–94**

Royce amendment that sought to prohibit funds made available for customs and border protection fencing, infrastructure, and technology from being used for anything but at least two layers of reinforced fencing and roads (by a recorded vote of 149 ayes to 272 noes, Roll No. 486); **Page H6495**

Forbes amendment that sought to prohibit funds from being used to extend the designation of any foreign state under the Immigration and Nationality Act (by a recorded vote of 123 ayes to 298 noes, Roll No. 487); **Pages H6495–96**

Rogers (KY) amendment that sought to require that this Act comply with the Davis-Bacon Act (by a recorded vote of 145 ayes to 277 noes, Roll No. 488); and **Pages H6496–97**

Rogers (KY) amendment (No. 1 printed in the Congressional Record of June 11, 2007) that sought to reduce funding for the Department of Homeland Security by 5.7 percent over the next year (by a recorded vote of 178 ayes to 243 noes, Roll No. 489). **Page H6497**

Point of Order sustained against:

Obey amendment that sought to prohibit funds in this or any other Act from being used to pay more than one dollar for a legislative earmark as defined in clause 9 of Rule XXI. **Page H6498**

Agreed that the Clerk be authorized to make technical and conforming changes to reflect the actions of the House. **Page H6518**

H. Res. 473, the rule providing for consideration of the bill, was agreed to on Tuesday, June 12th.

Moment of Silence: The House observed a moment of silence in honor of Donald Clancy, former Member of Congress. **Page H6517**

Military Construction and Veterans Affairs Appropriations Act, 2008—Order of Business: The House agreed that it shall be in order at any time for the Speaker to declare the House resolved into the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union for consideration of the bill H.R. 2642; that the first reading of the bill shall be dispensed with; that all points of order against consideration of the bill are waived except those arising under clause

9 or 10 of rule 21; that general debate shall be confined to the bill and shall not exceed one hour equally divided and controlled by the chairman and ranking minority member of the Committee on Appropriations; that the bill shall be considered for amendment under the five-minute rule; that no amendment shall be in order except those on a list submitted to the desk; and that when the committee rises and reports the bill back to the House with a recommendation that the bill do pass, the previous question shall be considered as ordered on the bill and amendments thereto to final passage without intervening motion except one motion to recommit with or without instructions.

Pages H6518–19

Military Construction and Veterans Affairs Appropriations Act, 2008: The House passed H.R. 2642, making appropriations for military construction, the Department of Veterans Affairs, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2008, by a yea-and-nay vote of 409 yeas to 2 nays, Roll No. 498.

Pages H6519–67, H6565–66

Agreed to:

Franks (AZ) amendment (No. 8 printed in the Congressional Record of June 13, 2007) that strikes section 125 relating to the conduct of studies of missile defense;

Pages H6542–46

Capito amendment regarding the submission of a report on the implementation of the Office of Rural Health;

Pages H6548–49

Wilson (NM) amendment that provides \$2 million for the Advisory Committee on Women Veterans;

Pages H6551–53

Blackburn amendment (No. 13 printed in the Congressional Record of June 14, 2007) that strikes the word “encouraged” and inserts the word “directed” in section 405 relating to “E-commerce” technologies and procedures;

Page H6553

Upton amendment that prohibits funds from being used to purchase any light bulbs that do not have the “ENERGY STAR” designation;

Pages H6558–59

Moran (KS) amendment that increases funding, by offset, for the Medical Administration by \$125 million (by a recorded vote of 264 yeas to 152 noes, Roll No. 495); and

Pages H6546–48, H6563–64

Musgrave amendment that adds a new section prohibiting the use of funds for any action that is related to, or promotes the expansion of, the boundaries or size of the Pinon Canyon Maneuver Site in southeastern Colorado (by a recorded vote of 383 yeas to 34 noes, Roll No. 497).

Pages H6553–55, H6564–65

Rejected:

Hayes amendment that sought to increase funding, by offset, for the Department of Defense Base

Closure Account by \$30,000,000 (by a recorded vote of 110 yeas to 304 noes, Roll No. 492);

Pages H6534–36, H6561–62

Blumenauer amendment that relates to funding for BRAC 1990 (by a recorded vote of 68 yeas to 347 noes, Roll No. 493);

Pages H6536–38, H6562

Price (GA) amendment (No. 17 printed in the Congressional Record of June 14, 2007) that sought to reduce funding for BRAC by \$50 million, and increase funding for the Veterans Health Administration medical services by \$22 million (by a recorded vote of 154 yeas to 260 noes, Roll No. 494); and

Pages H6538–42, H6562–63

Garrett (NJ) amendment (No. 1 printed in the Congressional Record of June 12, 2007) that increases, by offset, funding for construction of State Extended Care Facilities by \$10 million (by a recorded vote of 206 yeas to 211 noes, Roll No. 496).

Pages H6549–51, H6564

Withdrawn:

Corrine Brown (FL) amendment that was offered and subsequently withdrawn that relates to funding for Gainesville Veterans Affairs Medical Center;

Page H6549

Hall (NY) amendment (No. 3 printed in the Congressional Record of June 12, 2007) that was offered and subsequently withdrawn that sought to prohibit the use of any funds from being used to provide to any officer of the Department of Veterans Affairs who is appointed by the President, by and with the consent of the Senate, or to any Deputy Under Secretary or Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Department of Veterans Affairs a performance award or a performance-based cash award; and

Pages H6555–56

Jackson-Lee (TX) amendment that was offered and subsequently withdrawn that sought to add a new section requiring the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to increase the number of medical centers specializing in post-traumatic stress disorder in underserved urban areas.

Pages H6556–58

Point of Order sustained against:

Pearce amendment that sought to prohibit funds from being used to reimburse employees of the Department of Veterans Affairs for official travel expenses until the Secretary of Veterans Affairs increases the mileage reimbursement rate payable under section 111 of title 38, United States Code.

Pages H6559–61

Calendar Wednesday: Agreed by unanimous consent to dispense with the Calendar Wednesday business of Wednesday, June 20th.

Page H6567

Meeting Hour: Agreed that when the House adjourns today, it adjourn to meet at 12:30 p.m. on Monday, June 18th for Morning Hour debate.

Page H6567

House Commission on Congressional Mailing Standards—Appointment: The Chair announced the Speaker's appointment of the following Members of the House of Representatives to the House Commission on Congressional Mailing Standards: Representative Capuano, Chairman; Representatives Sherman, Davis (AL), Ehlers, Price (GA) and McCarthy (CA).

Page H6567

Abraham Lincoln Bicentennial Commission—Appointment: The Chair announced the Speaker's appointment of Representative Jackson (IL) to the Abraham Lincoln Bicentennial Commission.

Page H6567

Abraham Lincoln Bicentennial Commission—Appointment: The Chair read a letter from Mr. Boehner, Minority Leader, in which he re-appointed Representative LaHood to the Abraham Lincoln Bicentennial Commission.

Page H6567

Presidential Message: Read a message from the President wherein he notified Congress of the continuation of the national emergency and related measures blocking the property of certain persons undermining democratic processes or institutions in Belarus—referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs and ordered printed (H. Doc. 110–39).

Pages H6567–68

Senate Message: Message received from the Senate today appears on page H6518.

Quorum Calls—Votes: Three yea-and-nay votes and thirty recorded votes developed during the proceedings of today and appear on pages H6480–81, H6481–82, H6482, H6483, H6483–84, H6484, H6485, H6485–86, H6486–87, H6487, H6488, H6488–89, H6489–90, H6490, H6490–91, H6491–92, H6492, H6493, H6493–94, H6494–95, H6495, H6495–96, H6496–97, H6497, H6516–17, H6517–18, H6561–62, H6562, H6562–63, H6563–64, H6564, H6564–65 and H6565–66. There were no quorum calls.

Adjournment: The House met at 9 a.m. and adjourned at 6:20 p.m.

Committee Meetings

PAUL WELLSTONE MENTAL HEALTH AND ADDICTION EQUITY ACT OF 2007

Committee on Energy and Commerce: Subcommittee on Health held a hearing on H.R. 1424, Paul Wellstone Mental Health and Addiction Equity Act of 2007. Testimony was heard from Representatives Kennedy and Ramstad; and public witnesses.

SMITHSONIAN/KENNEDY CENTER OVERSIGHT

Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure: Subcommittee on Economic Development, Public Buildings, and Emergency Management, hearing on Public and Private Responsibility for Maintaining Our National Treasures: The Smithsonian Institution and the John F. Kennedy Center. Testimony was heard from Cristian Samper, Acting Secretary, Smithsonian Institution; and Michael Kaiser, President, John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts.

NEW PUBLIC LAWS

(For last listing of Public Laws, see DAILY DIGEST, p. D760)

S. 214, to amend chapter 35 of title 28, United States Code, to preserve the independence of United States attorneys. Signed on June 14, 2007. (Public Law 110–34)

H.R. 1675, to suspend the requirements of the Department of Housing and Urban Development regarding electronic filing of previous participation certificates and regarding filing of such certificates with respect to certain low-income housing investors. Signed on June 15, 2007. (Public Law 110–35)

S. 1104, to increase the number of Iraqi and Afghani translators and interpreters who may be admitted to the United States as special immigrants. Signed on June 15, 2007. (Public Law 110–36)

CONGRESSIONAL PROGRAM AHEAD

Week of June 18 through June 23, 2007

Senate Chamber

On *Monday*, at 3:30 p.m., Senate will resume consideration of H.R. 6, CLEAN Energy Act.

During the balance of the week, Senate may consider any cleared legislative and executive business.

Senate Committees

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Committee on Appropriations: June 19, Subcommittee on Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies, business meeting to mark up proposed legislation making appropriations for Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2008, 10 a.m., SD–124.

June 19, Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies, business meeting to mark up proposed legislation making appropriations for Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2008, 4 p.m., SD–124.

June 21, Full Committee, business meeting to mark up proposed legislation making appropriations for Labor,

Health and Human Services, and Education, Interior, and Legislative Branch for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2008, 2 p.m., SD-106.

June 22, Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies, to hold hearings to examine a new vision for medical research relating to the fiscal year 2008 budget for the National Institutes of Health, 10 a.m., SD-116.

Committee on Armed Services: June 19, business meeting to consider the nomination of Preston M. Geren, of Texas, to be Secretary of the Army, 9:30 a.m., SH-216.

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs: June 20, to hold hearings to examine reauthorization of the Hope VI Program, 2 p.m., SD-538.

June 21, Full Committee, to hold hearings to examine working towards ending homelessness, focusing on the reauthorization of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act (Public Law 100-77), 10 a.m., SD-538.

Committee on the Budget: June 21, to hold hearings to examine health care and the budget, focusing on issues and challenges for reform, 10 a.m., SD-608.

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation: June 20, Subcommittee on Aviation Operations, Safety, and Security, to hold an oversight hearing to examine foreign aviation repair stations, 2:30 p.m., SR-253.

June 21, Full Committee, to hold hearings to examine telephone number porting and caller-ID spoofing, 10 a.m., SR-253.

June 21, Subcommittee on Science, Technology, and Innovation, to hold hearings to examine energy efficiency technologies and programs, 2:30 p.m., SR-253.

Committee on Environment and Public Works: June 20, Subcommittee on Superfund and Environmental Health, to hold hearings to examine the Environmental Protection Agency's response to 9-11, focusing on lessons learned for future emergency preparedness, 10 a.m., SD-406.

June 21, Full Committee, to continue hearings to examine the case for the California waiver, including an update from the Environmental Protection Agency, 10 a.m., SD-406.

Committee on Finance: June 19, business meeting to consider an original bill entitled, "Energy Advancement and Investment Act of 2007", 10 a.m., SD-215.

June 21, Full Committee, to hold hearings to examine barriers to work to be overcome for individuals receiving Social Security Disability Benefits, 10 a.m., SD-215.

Committee on Foreign Relations: June 19, to hold hearings to examine the nominations of June Carter Perry, of the District of Columbia, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Sierra Leone, Frederick B. Cook, of Florida, to be Ambassador to the Central African Republic, Robert B. Nolan, of Virginia, to be Ambassador to the Kingdom of Lesotho, and Maurice S. Parker, of California, to be Ambassador to the Kingdom of Swaziland, 10 a.m., SD-419.

June 19, Subcommittee on International Operations and Organizations, Democracy and Human Rights, to hold hearings to examine the passport backlog and the Department of State's response to the Western Hemisphere Travel Initiative, 2:30 p.m., SD-419.

June 20, Full Committee, to hold hearings to examine the nominations of William R. Brownfield, of Texas, to

be Ambassador to the Republic of Colombia, Peter Michael McKinley, of Virginia, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Peru, and Patrick Dennis Duddy, of Maine, to be Ambassador to the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, 10 a.m., SD-419.

June 20, Full Committee, to hold hearings to examine the nominations of Anne Woods Patterson, of Virginia, to be Ambassador to the Islamic Republic of Pakistan, Nancy J. Powell, of Iowa, to be Ambassador to Nepal, Joseph Adam Ereli, of the District of Columbia, to be Ambassador to the Kingdom of Bahrain, Richard Boyce Norland, of Iowa, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Uzbekistan, and Stephen A. Seche, of Virginia, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Yemen, 3 p.m., SD-419.

June 21, Full Committee, to hold hearings to examine a strategic assessment of United States and Russia relations, 9:30 a.m., SD-419.

June 21, Full Committee, to hold hearings to examine the nominations of John L. Withers II, of Maryland, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Albania, Charles Lewis English, of New York, to be Ambassador to Bosnia and Herzegovina, Cameron Munter, of California, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Serbia, Roderick W. Moore, of Rhode Island, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Montenegro, and J. Christian Kennedy, of Indiana, to be Ambassador during his tenure of service as Special Envoy for Holocaust Issues, 2 p.m., SD-419.

Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions: June 20, business meeting to consider original bills entitled, "The Higher Education Access Reconciliation Act", and "The Higher Education Amendments of 2007", and other pending calendar business, 9:30 a.m., SD-628.

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs: June 19, to hold hearings to examine the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation and the federal government, focusing on a model public-private partnership accelerating research toward a cure, 9:30 a.m., SD-106.

June 21, Ad Hoc Subcommittee on State, Local, and Private Sector Preparedness and Integration, to hold hearings to examine the state of public-private collaboration in preparing for and responding to national catastrophes, 2 p.m., SD-342.

Committee on Indian Affairs: June 21, to continue oversight hearings to examine law enforcement in Indian Country, 9:30 a.m., SR-485.

Committee on the Judiciary: June 20, to hold hearings to examine rising crime in the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina, 10 a.m., SD-226.

June 20, Full Committee, to hold hearings to examine pending judicial nominations, 2:30 p.m., SD-226.

June 21, Full Committee, business meeting to consider S. 1145, to amend title 35, United States Code, to provide for patent reform, S. Res. 230, designating the month of July 2007, as "National Teen Safe Driver Month", S. Res. 231, recognizing the historical significance of Juneteenth Independence Day and expressing the sense of the Senate that history should be regarded as a means for understanding the past and solving the challenges of the future, and the nomination of Leslie Southwick, of Mississippi, to be United States Circuit Judge

for the Fifth Circuit, and possible authorization of subpoenas in connection with the investigation of the legal basis for the warrantless wiretap program, 10 a.m., SD-226.

June 21, Full Committee, to hold an oversight hearing to examine the Civil Rights Division of the Department of Justice, 2 p.m., SD-226.

Committee on Rules and Administration: June 20, to hold hearings to examine S. 1285, to reform the financing of Senate elections, 10 a.m., SR-301.

Select Committee on Intelligence: June 19, to hold hearings to examine the nomination of John A. Rizzo, of the District of Columbia, to be General Counsel of the Central Intelligence Agency, 2:30 p.m., SD-106.

June 21, Full Committee, to hold closed hearings to examine certain intelligence matters, 3:30 p.m., SH-219.

Special Committee on Aging: June 21, to hold hearings to examine America's aging farming population, focusing on the threat to the future of American agriculture as aging farmers are not being replaced by younger generations, 11 a.m., SR-325.

House Committees

Committee on Agriculture, June 19, Subcommittee on General Farm Commodities and Risk Management, to consider H.R. 2419, Farm Bill Extension Act of 2007, 10 a.m., 1300 Longworth.

Committee on Armed Services, June 20, hearing on Organizing the Roles, Missions, and Requirements of the Department of Defense, 10 a.m., 2118 Rayburn.

Committee on Education and Labor, June 19, Subcommittee on Higher Education, Lifelong Learning and Competitiveness, hearing on Building on the Success of 35 Years of Title IX, 10 a.m., 2175 Rayburn.

June 20, full Committee, to mark up the following bills: H.R. 980, Public Safety Employer-Employee Cooperation Act of 2007; and H.R. 2693, To direct the Occupational Safety and Health Administration to issue a standard regulating worker exposure to diacetyl, 10:30 a.m., 2175 Rayburn.

June 21, Subcommittee on Workforce Protection, hearing on Balancing Work and Family: What Policies Best Support American Families? 1:30 p.m., 2175 Rayburn.

Committee on Energy and Commerce, June 19, Subcommittee on Health, to mark up the following: Prescription Drug User Fee Amendments of 2007; Medical Device User Fee Amendments of 2007; Best Pharmaceuticals for Children Amendment of 2007; Pediatric Research Improvement Act; to amend the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act to improve drug safety; To amend the Public Health Service to provide for the establishment of a clinical trial registry database and a clinical trial results database; To amend the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act with respect to conflicts of interest; To amend the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act to provide for the establishment of the Reagan-Udall Institute for Applied Biomedical Research; and the Pediatric Medical Device Safety and Improvement of 2007, 10 a.m., 2123 Rayburn.

June 22, Subcommittee on Environment and Hazardous Materials, hearing on H.R. 1534, Mercury Export Ban Act of 2007, 10 a.m., 2322 Rayburn.

June 22, Subcommittee on Telecommunications and the Internet, hearing entitled "Images Kids See on the Screen," 10 a.m., 2123 Rayburn.

Committee on Financial Services, June 19, hearing on Credit Reports: Consumers' Ability to Dispute and Change Inaccurate Information, 10 a.m., 2128 Rayburn.

June 20, full Committee, hearing to receive the annual testimony of the Secretary of the Treasury regarding the State of the International Financial System, 10 a.m., 2128 Rayburn.

June 21, Subcommittee on Capital Markets, Insurance, and Government Sponsored Enterprises, hearing entitled "Examining a Legislative Solution to Extend and Revise the Terrorism Risk Insurance Act," 10 a.m., 2128 Rayburn.

June 21, Subcommittee on Housing and Community Opportunity, hearing entitled "Reauthorization of the HOPE VI Program," 2 p.m., 2128 Rayburn.

June 22, Subcommittee on Housing and Community Opportunity, hearing entitled "Homeowner Downpayment Assistance Programs and Related Issues, 10 a.m., 2128 Rayburn.

Committee on Foreign Affairs, June 19, hearing on South America and the United States: How to Fix a Broken Relationship, 10 a.m., 2172 Rayburn.

June 19, Subcommittee on Middle East and South Asia, hearing on Working in a War Zone: Post Traumatic Stress Disorders in Civilians Returning from Iraq, 2 p.m., 2172 Rayburn.

June 20, Subcommittee on Africa and Global Health, hearing on World Refugee Day 2007, 9:30 a.m., 2172 Rayburn.

June 20, Subcommittee on Europe, hearing on Adding Hezbollah to the EU Terrorist List, 1 p.m., 2200 Rayburn.

June 21, Subcommittee on Terrorism, Nonproliferation, and Trade, to mark up the Overseas Private Investment Corporation Reauthorization Act of 2007, 1 p.m., 2255 Rayburn.

June 22, full Committee, hearing on the Future of NATO: How Valuable an Asset? 10 a.m., 2172 Rayburn.

Committee on Homeland Security: June 19, Subcommittee on Management, Investigations and Oversight, hearing on Ensuring We Have Well-Trained Boots on the Ground at the Border, 11 a.m., 311 Cannon.

June 19, Subcommittee on Transportation Security, and Infrastructure Protection, hearing on Keeping the Border Secure: Examining Potential Threats Posed by Cross Border Trucking, 1:30 p.m., 1539 Rayburn.

June 20, Subcommittee on Emerging Threats, Cybersecurity, and Science and Technology, hearing on Hacking the Homeland: Investigating Cybersecurity Vulnerabilities at the Department of Homeland Security, 2 p.m., 311 Cannon.

June 21, Subcommittee on Management, Investigations and Oversight, to continue hearings on You Don't Know

What You Don't Know: Has the Department of Homeland Security Improved its Ability to Maintain Situational Awareness Since Hurricane Katrina? 12 noon, 1539 Longworth.

June 21, Subcommittee on Emerging Communications, Preparedness, and Response, hearing on Challenges Facing First Responders in Border Communities, 10 a.m., 1539 Longworth.

Committee on the Judiciary: June 19, Subcommittee on Crime, Terrorism, and Homeland Security, hearing on War Profiteering and Other Contractor Crimes Committed Overseas, 2 p.m., 2141 Rayburn.

June 19, Subcommittee on Immigration, Citizenship, Refugees, Border Security, and International Law, to continue hearings on Comprehensive Immigration Reform: Government Perspectives on Immigration Statistics, 4 p.m., 2237 Rayburn.

June 21, Subcommittee on Commercial and Administrative Law, to continue hearings on the Continuing Investigation into the U.S. Attorney Controversy and Related Matters, 12 p.m., 2141 Rayburn.

June 21, Subcommittee on the Constitution, Civil Rights, and Civil Liberties, hearing on the following bills: H.R. 558, African American Farmers Benefit Relief Act of 2007; and H.R. 899, Pigford Claims Remedy Act of 2007, 9 a.m., 2141 Rayburn.

Committee on Natural Resources: June 19, Subcommittee on Fisheries, Wildlife and Oceans, to mark up the following bills: H.R. 1834, National Ocean Exploration Program Act; and H.R. 2400, Ocean and Coastal Mapping Integration Act, 10 a.m., 1334 Longworth.

June 19, Subcommittee on National Parks, Forests and Public Lands, oversight hearing on Wildfire Preparedness: An Ounce of Prevention is Worth a Pound of Cure, 10 a.m., 1324 Longworth.

June 21, Subcommittee on Fisheries, Wildlife and Oceans, hearing on H.R. 767, Refuge Ecology Protection, Assistance, and Immediate Response Act, 10 a.m., 1324 Longworth.

Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, June 19, to consider pending business, 10 a.m., 2154 Rayburn.

June 19, Subcommittee on Information Policy, Census, and National Archives, hearing on Protecting Patient Privacy in Healthcare Information Systems, 2 p.m., 2154 Rayburn.

June 20, Subcommittee on Government Management, Organization, and Procurement, hearing on Inspectors General: Independence Accountability, 2 p.m., 2247 Rayburn.

June 21, Subcommittee on Federal Workforce, Postal Services, and the District of Columbia, hearing on Ensuring a Merit-Based Employment System: An Examination of the Merit Systems Protection Board and the Office of Special Counsel; followed by a meeting on the District of Columbia Autonomy legislation, 2 p.m., 2247 Rayburn.

June 22, full Committee, hearing on the Response of the Department of Health and Human Services to the Nation's Emergency Care Crisis, 10 a.m., 2154 Rayburn.

Committee on Rules, June 19, to consider the State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs appropriations for fiscal year 2008, 2 p.m., H-313 Capitol.

Committee on Science and Technology, June 19, Subcommittee on Energy and Environment, hearing on Research, Education and Training Programs to Facilitate Adoption of Solar Energy Technologies, 10 a.m., 2318 Rayburn.

June 19, Subcommittee on Research and Science Education, hearing on the Role of Community Colleges and Industry in Meeting the Demand for Skilled Production Workers and Technicians in the 21st Century Economy, 3 p.m., 2318 Rayburn.

June 21, Subcommittee on Energy and Environment, to consider the following measures: the Biofuels Research and Development Enhancement Act; and H.R. 1933, Department of Energy Carbon Capture and Storage Research, Development, and Demonstration Act of 2007, 10 a.m., 2318 Rayburn.

June 22, full Committee, to consider H.R. 2698, Federal Aviation Research and Development Reauthorization Act of 2007, 10 a.m., 2318 Rayburn.

Committee on Small Business, June 20, Subcommittee on Contracting and Technology, hearing on meeting the Workforce Demands of Small Bio-Energy Businesses, 10 a.m., 2360 Rayburn.

June 21, full Committee, hearing on Increasing Investment in Our Nation's Small Businesses, 2 p.m., 2360 Rayburn.

Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, June 19, Subcommittee on Railroads, Pipelines, and Hazardous Materials, hearing on Benefits of Intercity Passenger Rail, 2 p.m., 2167 Rayburn.

June 20, full Committee, to continue consideration H.R. 2701, Transportation Energy Security and Climate Change Mitigation Act of 2007, 11 a.m., 2167 Rayburn.

June 21, Subcommittee on Economic Development, Public Buildings, and Emergency Management, hearing on the Responsibility of the Department of Homeland Security and the Federal Protective Service to Ensure Contract Guards Protect Federal Employees and Workplaces, 10 a.m., 2253 Rayburn.

Committee on Veterans' Affairs, June 19, Subcommittee on Disability Assistance and Memorial Affairs, hearing on the following bills: H.R. 585, To amend title 38, United States Code, to expand the number of individuals qualifying for retroactive benefits from traumatic injury protection coverage under Servicemembers' Group Life Insurance; H.R. 156, To amend title 38, United States Code, to provide for payment of dependency and indemnity compensation to the Survivors of former prisoners of war who died on or before September 30, 1999, under the same eligibility conditions as apply to payment of dependency and indemnity compensation to the Survivors of former prisoners of war who died after that date; and H.R. 704, To amend title 38, United States Code, to reduce from age 57 to age 55 the age after which the remarriage of the surviving spouse of a deceased veteran shall not result in termination of dependency and indemnity compensation otherwise payable to that surviving spouse, 2 p.m., 334 Cannon.

June 20, full Committee, hearing on Priority 8 Veterans, 10 a.m., 334 Cannon.

Committee on Ways and Means, June 19, Subcommittee on Income Security and Family Support, hearing on Disconnected and Disadvantaged Youth, 1 p.m., B-318 Rayburn.

June 21, Subcommittee on Health, hearing on Beneficiary Protections in Medicare Part D, 2 p.m., 1100 Longworth.

June 21, Subcommittee on Social Security, hearing on Protecting the Privacy of the Social Security Number from Identity Theft, 10 a.m., B-318 Rayburn.

Select Committee on Energy Independence and Global Warming, June 19, hearing on Green Cities: Mayoral Initiatives to Reduce Global Warming Pollution, 2 p.m., room to be announced.

Joint Meetings

Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe: June 21, to hold hearings to examine the Guantanamo Bay detention camp, focusing on the implications for United States human rights leadership, 10 a.m., 2325 Rayburn.

Next Meeting of the SENATE

2 p.m., Monday, June 18

Next Meeting of the HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

12:30 p.m., Monday, June 18

Senate Chamber

Program for Monday: After the transaction of any morning business (not to extend beyond 3:30 p.m.), Senate will resume consideration of H.R. 6, CLEAN Energy Act.

House Chamber

Program for Monday: To be announced.

Extensions of Remarks, as inserted in this issue

HOUSE

Ackerman, Gary L., N.Y., E1315
 Alexander, Rodney, La., E1313
 Becerra, Xavier, Calif., E1309
 Butterfield, G.K., N.C., E1316
 Coble, Howard, N.C., E1310
 Cramer, Robert E. (Bud), Jr., Ala., E1314
 Davis, Danny K., Ill., E1313
 Ellison, Kieth, Minn., E1315
 Engel, Eliot L., N.Y., E1312
 Feeney, Tom, Fla., E1311
 Giffords, Gabrielle, Ariz., E1316
 Hare, Phil, Ill., E1315

Hastings, Alcee L., Fla., E1302, E1303
 Hoyer, Steny H., Md., E1309
 Israel, Steve, N.Y., E1313
 Kildee, Dale E., Mich., E1312
 Kingston, Jack, Ga., E1316
 Lampson, Nick, Tex., E1306
 Latham, Tom, Iowa, E1302, E1303
 Lewis, Jerry, Calif., E1308
 Michaud, Michael H., Me., E1312
 Mitchell, Harry E., Ariz., E1310
 Norton, Eleanor Holmes, D.C., E1308
 Paul, Ron, Tex., E1301, E1303, E1304, E1306
 Pitts, Joseph R., Pa., E1311
 Pryce, Deborah, Ohio, E1305

Rangel, Charles B., N.Y., E1301, E1303, E1305
 Regula, Ralph, Ohio, E1317
 Reichert, David G., Wash., E1314
 Sarbanes, John P., Md., E1315
 Schakowsky, Janice D., Ill., E1309
 Smith, Adrian, Nebr., E1310
 Smith, Lamar, Tex., E1314
 Tanner, John S., Tenn., E1307
 Tiahrt, Todd, Kans., E1314
 Towns, Edolphus, N.Y., E1301, E1302, E1304, E1306,
 E1306, E1308, E1309, E1310, E1311, E1312
 Yarmuth, John A., Ky., E1317



Congressional Record

printed pursuant to directions of the Joint Committee on Printing as authorized by appropriate provisions of Title 44, United States Code, and published for each day that one or both Houses are in session, excepting very infrequent instances when two or more unusually small consecutive issues are printed one time. ¶Public access to the *Congressional Record* is available online through *GPO Access*, a service of the Government Printing Office, free of charge to the user. The online database is updated each day the *Congressional Record* is published. The database includes both text and graphics from the beginning of the 103d Congress, 2d session (January 1994) forward. It is available through *GPO Access* at www.gpo.gov/gpoaccess. Customers can also access this information with WAIS client software, via telnet at swais.access.gpo.gov, or dial-in using communications software and a modem at 202-512-1661. Questions or comments regarding this database or *GPO Access* can be directed to the *GPO Access* User Support Team at: E-Mail: gpoaccess@gpo.gov; Phone 1-888-293-6498 (toll-free), 202-512-1530 (D.C. area); Fax: 202-512-1262. The Team's hours of availability are Monday through Friday, 7:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., Eastern Standard Time, except Federal holidays. ¶The *Congressional Record* paper and 24x microfiche edition will be furnished by mail to subscribers, free of postage, at the following prices: paper edition, \$252.00 for six months, \$503.00 per year, or purchased as follows: less than 200 pages, \$10.50; between 200 and 400 pages, \$21.00; greater than 400 pages, \$31.50, payable in advance; microfiche edition, \$146.00 per year, or purchased for \$3.00 per issue payable in advance. The semimonthly *Congressional Record Index* may be purchased for the same per issue prices. To place an order for any of these products, visit the U.S. Government Online Bookstore at: bookstore.gpo.gov. Mail orders to: Superintendent of Documents, P.O. Box 371954, Pittsburgh, PA 15250-7954, or phone orders to 866-512-1800 (toll free), 202-512-1800 (D.C. area), or fax to 202-512-2250. Remit check or money order, made payable to the Superintendent of Documents, or use VISA, MasterCard, Discover, American Express, or GPO Deposit Account. ¶Following each session of Congress, the daily *Congressional Record* is revised, printed, permanently bound and sold by the Superintendent of Documents in individual parts or by sets. ¶With the exception of copyrighted articles, there are no restrictions on the republication of material from the *Congressional Record*.

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to the Superintendent of Documents, *Congressional Record*, U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C. 20402, along with the entire mailing label from the last issue received.